

U.S. Trip Still On, China Confirms

After 11th-Hour Hesitation, Beijing Says Zhu Will Visit Next Week

The Associated Press

BEIJING — After an unusual delay that reflected government concerns over NATO's bombing of Yugoslavia, protracted trade negotiations and attacks on human-rights policies, China confirmed Friday that Prime Minister Zhu Rongji will visit the United States next week.

The Foreign Ministry, in a statement carried by state media, announced that Mr. Zhu will visit the United States and Canada from Tuesday to April 20, ending speculation that he might cancel the trip. The U.S. government announced the dates a week ago, but China had held off while senior leaders debated whether he should go.

High-level Chinese officials debated whether to change the timing of the visit. Speculation that Mr. Zhu might cancel intensified Thursday after the Foreign Ministry refused to give the customary one week's notice of a senior leader's travel plans. On Thursday, a spokesman said he was unable to provide any dates, nor did he deny reports that Mr. Zhu might postpone.

"We are confident that the visit will

stem from China's opposition to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's bombing of Yugoslavia and faltering progress in drawn-out negotiations with the United States over China's bid to join the World Trade Organization and over human rights issues.

Hopes for a WTO deal in time for Mr. Zhu's visit were dampened after the top U.S. trade negotiator left Tuesday, saying the two sides were still divided on terms for China's entry into the rules-making body for world trade.

Chinese citizens living in the United States also wrote to Mr. Zhu urging him to cancel his visit because of the Kosovo crisis.

In confirming the trip, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, Sun Yuxi, said Friday that Mr. Zhu will have "an extensive and in-depth exchange of views" with U.S. and Canadian leaders on bilateral relations, as well as "international and regional issues." The official Xinhua press agency reported.

"We are confident that the visit will

enhance the mutual understanding and friendship between the Chinese people and the U.S. and Canadian peoples and further promote" relations, Mr. Sun said. Mr. Zhu has already said that he expects the visit to be rocky.

■ India and China Agree to Talks

India and China will resume talks on their disputed Himalayan border by the end of April or early May, the prime minister's principal adviser, Brajesh Mishra, said Friday, Agence France-Presse reported from New Delhi.

Mr. Mishra added that there was also a possibility of Foreign Minister Jaswant Singh's visiting China or holding talks with Chinese leaders at the ASEAN Regional Forum meeting in Singapore in June if the talks were fruitful.

The two countries resumed an official-level dialogue last month with two days of talks in Beijing. Relations between New Delhi and Beijing became strained early last year after Defense Minister George Fernandes described China as India's main enemy.



FARMERS GO TO TOWN — Thousands of South Korean livestock farmers marching past the National Assembly building in Seoul on Friday to protest a government plan that could lower the subsidies they receive.

Stem Cells Grow Tissues to Order

By Nicholas Wade
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The concept of regenerative medicine — using the body's own stem cells and growth factors to repair tissues — has come closer to reality with a discovery about the special human cells from which all bone and connective tissues are derived.

The discovery bolsters the hope that the cells can in principle be used to repair bone, cartilage, tendon and many other injured or aged tissues. The cells would in many cases be derived from the patient's own bone marrow and thus present no problem of immune rejection.

Biologists at Osiris Therapeutics, a privately held biotechnology company in Baltimore, have shown that the cells, called human mesenchymal stem cells, can be converted into bone cells, cartilage cells, fat cells and the stroma cells in the bone marrow that provide support for blood-forming cells.

The company also has identified special factors that can be used in the laboratory to drive the cells down each of these distinct lineages. Its work is described in Friday's issue of *Science* magazine.

Stem cell biologists independent of the company said the new report represented a promising advance, even though it remains to be seen if the clinical applications will work as hoped.

Dr. Daniel Marshak, the chief scientific officer of Osiris, said the mesenchymal stem cells could be formulated so that, when inserted in the right place in the body, they would change into the appropriate tissue.

Tests in animals show that when the cells are grown on ceramic and put into bone, they turn into bone-forming cells. If grown in a gel and inserted into cartilage, they metamorphose into cartilage cells. If injected into the bloodstream, the cells take up residence in the bone and turn into stroma cells.

There is no way of knowing how soon treatments derived from the techniques will be available, but a clinical trial is now under way with breast cancer patients to explore the cells' stroma-forming abilities. Lack of stroma to support blood-forming cells may be why the bone marrow transplants given to cancer patients after chemotherapy are not always successful.

With Novartis AG, the Swiss pharmaceutical company, Osiris also plans to test in humans the cells' abilities to form new bone, tendon and cartilage. The cells can also be converted to fat cells, which could prove useful in cosmetic surgery and possibly as material for breast implants.

Dr. Mark Pittenger, who identified the various factors needed to convert the cells into bone, cartilage and fat, said he was now working to change them into heart-muscle cells. People are born with a fixed number of heart-muscle cells, and the heart grows by enlargement of these cells, not by growing more.

"We hope at the least we can prevent some of the scarring we after a heart attack by implanting new cells," Dr. Pittenger said.

The human mesenchymal stem cells found in adult bone marrow are derived from the mesoderm, one of the three tissue types of the early embryo and the source of all the body's bone and connective tissue. The adult stem cells evidently much, and possibly all, of the mesoderm's magical plasticity, giving the Osiris biologists a wide range of tissue fates to explore for the cells.

Dr. David Anderson of the California Institute of Technology said it was a "very important result" to have trained the stem cells to form different lineages in the laboratory.

Farrakhan Is Said to Have Surgery

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Louis Farrakhan, the leader of the Nation of Islam, underwent emergency surgery this week and is more seriously ill than top organization officials have publicly acknowledged, according to sources at Howard University Hospital in Washington.

Mr. Farrakhan's worsening condition has set off a new wave of anxiety among his followers in the organization he has dominated for the last

20 years, as well as in the wider black community.

Mr. Farrakhan, 65, was flown to Washington from his lakeside home in Michigan on Tuesday night and rushed to Howard University Hospital bleeding and in great pain. After a series of tests, he underwent emergency surgery to administer radiation for a recurrence of prostate cancer, marking the third time he has undergone treatments for the disease since it was diagnosed in 1991, according to hospital sources.



Louis Farrakhan speaking to reporters last year.

Missouri Showdown: Hidden Guns or Not?

By Dirk Johnson
New York Times Service

ST. LOUIS, Missouri — In what both sides of the gun debate are calling a momentous showdown, Missouri will be the first to let voters decide in a statewide referendum whether to allow people to carry concealed weapons in public.

Proponents of the measure, to be decided next week, have outspent opponents by a ratio of 3 to 1, with the National Rifle Association spending almost all of the money on the efforts to pass the measure, \$2.1 million, with a blizzard of television ads, including one featuring a victim of the notorious "South Side Rapists."

The battle has drawn high-profile advocates, including Charlton Heston, the actor and president of the National Rifle Association, and James Brady, the former press secretary who was wounded in the assassination attempt against President Ronald Reagan. And it has pitted law enforcement officials against each other.

More than 40 states allow some people to carry concealed weapons, but in many, permits are rarely issued, and only if applicants demonstrate a need, such as carrying large amounts of cash in their work.

The Missouri measure, which becomes law if passed by a majority of the voters would grant permits to anyone over 21 who has not been convicted of a felony and who takes 12 hours of gun training. But it gives the sheriff in each county the right to deny any application.

In Missouri, rural voters are expected to back the measure strongly, while urban residents, especially blacks, are more skeptical about it.

In St. Louis's North Side neighborhood, which is pierced by sirens and pockmarked with boarded storefronts, 22-year-old Korey Davis, grimaced at the notion of the ballot measure. To Ms. Davis, who is black and once was held up by "an itchy boy with a big gun," putting more guns on the street would turn some urban neighborhoods "back to the Wild Wild West."

But across the state in rural Hickory County, Sherry Jones, a 43-year-old coffee shop waitress, welcomes the measure, which she believes would simply let law-abiding people protect themselves.

"Why should it be a crime for the rest of us to defend ourselves?"

With the vote scheduled at a time when little else is on the ballot in Missouri, the outcome will hinge largely on turnout.

The Missouri Legislature has passed measures allowing concealed weapons, but the bills have been vetoed by Governor Mel Carnahan, a Democrat.

James Baker, the chief lobbyist for the rifle association, said a victory at the ballot box would show broad popular support for gun rights, and could not be dismissed as "somehow buying off a state legislature," by a powerful lobbying group.

Officials for Handgun Control Inc., the group headed by Mr. Brady's wife, Sarah, said the rifle association is desperate to show strength after a series of losses.

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Is Time Running Out? / Temporary Victories

In the Misery of Vukovar Lies an Awful Model for Postwar Kosovo

By Blaine Harden
New York Times Service

VUKOVAR, Croatia — This ruined city beside the Danube is as good a place as any to meditate on the years of misery and score-settling that may lie ahead in Kosovo when the Serbian campaign there has ended.

Nearly eight and a half years ago, in the first great atrocity of his assorted Yugoslav wars, forces commanded by Slobodan Milosevic destroyed Vukovar to "liberate" it for the Serbs.

First, his forces shelled and bombed the town of 50,000 into rubble over the course of three months.

When Croatian residents finally surrendered, hundreds of exhausted fighters, many of them badly wounded and crowded into a hospital, were taken outside of town, shot and buried in mass graves.

Then, as in Kosovo now, the Serbian offensive was dressed up in nationalist oratory. After conquering this city in the fall of 1991, Serbian generals bused in the world's press, showed off scores of mutilated bodies, served lunch in a hotel perforated with artillery shells and blamed the ghastly mess on the Croats.

"I would ask you to see the fate of Vukovar as

the reincarnation of fascism," a colonel explained at the lunch.

This style of savage ethnic war and stone-age public relations later shifted to Bosnia and is now apparently under way in Kosovo.

Mass graves are still being dug up here. Vacant lots and farmland are still seeded with land mines. Inside the city, trees and shrubbery are growing up through the ruins of thousands of houses.

Unemployment approaches 90 percent. Nearly every young person with a marketable skill has fled Vukovar, once a prosperous, architecturally significant and ethnically mixed city where marriage between Serbs and Croats was common.

The Serbs who live here, squeezed by ethnic hostility and economic hardship, are now fleeing Vukovar in droves. Efforts by European nations to halt the Serbs' exodus and preside over ethnic reintegration of the town are, for the most part, failing.

"First you have war, and then you cannot establish the conditions for a normal society," said Nikolai Raisovskiy, a Russian who is deputy director of the Vukovar office for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

He said about 47,000 Serbs have moved away from the Vukovar area since 1996.

Mr. Milosevic's victory in Vukovar was as temporary as it was destructive. In this way, it fits into his pattern of starting off strong in ethnic war but quickly losing all conquered territories.

Yet, by the measure that he seems to care most about, Vukovar-style losses have been valuable. They allowed him to fire up his propaganda machine in Belgrade, inflame nationalist sentiment inside Serbia and keep his job.

The war in Kosovo, which for the past week has pitted Mr. Milosevic against the military might of the Western world, seems to fit this pattern of conflict that are hugely destructive and militarily untenable but politically useful.

As headlines and television cameras chase new ethnic violence, the long-term human costs of his win-by-losing wars are easy to overlook.

But Vukovar, perhaps more than any single city in what used to be Yugoslavia, testifies to the suffering, penury and ethnic resentment that seem certain to percolate for years in the lives of those who do not die in Mr. Milosevic's wars.

This city was returned in January 1998 to the control of Croatia.

The security organization supervises a police force here that is split almost evenly between Serbian and Croatian officers. It has managed to stop ethnic killing.

The Croatian government and the European Union are rebuilding houses, erecting street lights and stringing lines for electricity and phones.

But the sorting out of political control, the tentative beginnings of reconstruction and the departure of wild-eyed young men with automatic weapons have not come close to making Vukovar livable.

The city is ugly beyond imagining, with rotting mattresses and rain-blackened lampshades and soggy piles of clothing still resting in eight-year-old heaps inside shell-shattered houses that line nearly every street. Everywhere one turns there are brick walls perforated by artillery shells that cut holes the size of small cars. It is difficult to find a surface that is not pockmarked with the spray of shrapnel from mortars and bombs.

The only institutions that function — hospitals, churches, hotels, markets — are ones that have been rebuilt, almost always with money from the Croatian government or countries in Europe.

Residents of Vukovar, Serbs and Croats alike, agreed in interviews that it is difficult to find a good reason for living in this graveyard of a city. "Whoever can leave leaves, because the economy is horrible," said Nikola, 21, a Serb who would not give his last name. "Serbs also leave

because they are afraid. I am planning to go to Canada as soon as I can find a way."

Before the war, Vukovar was one of the most ethnically integrated cities in Croatia: about a third Croat, a third Serb and the rest a mix of other ethnic groups.

But the relative harmony that prevailed here since World War II was upset in the late 1980s by an outburst of Croatian nationalism. Just as ethnic Albanians in Kosovo pressed the Serbian minority in that province of Serbia in the 1980s, so did Croats here frighten and anger the Serbian minority here in what was then a republic in the Yugoslav Federation.

In both cases, Mr. Milosevic used that fear to whip up nationalist anger inside Serbia and solidify his political power. His forces then responded to what was going on — in Vukovar just as in Kosovo — in a manner vastly out of proportion to the threat against Serbs.

The fall of Vukovar, though, was not simply a matter of Serbian aggression. Like nearly everything in the Yugoslav wars, it was more complicated, more devious than that. President Franjo Tudjman of Croatia chose not to defend the city, apparently calculating that the destruction of such a photogenic community would win international sympathy for his country.

Why Lessons of Bosnia Don't Apply in Kosovo

Milosevic, for One, Had Less at Stake in '95

By David Rohde
New York Times Service

One perception driving the Clinton administration's strategy of carrying out punishing NATO air strikes against Slobodan Milosevic is the idea that the only language he understands is force.

In 1995, this view goes, a NATO bombing campaign compelled Mr. Milosevic and his Bosnian Serb allies to end the three-year war in Bosnia. Another round of air strikes might therefore break the will of the Yugoslav leadership and force Mr. Milosevic to halt his attacks on Kosovo Albanians.

But Bosnia and Kosovo are very different. And it was not NATO bombing alone, but a mix of politics, diplomacy and military pressure that brought Mr. Milosevic to the negotiating table over Bosnia.

"The only things these conflicts have in common is that they're in the same geographic area," said Anthony Cordesman of the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington. "What was going on in Bosnia was completely different politically, historically and emotionally from what is going on in Kosovo."

Administration officials said that they did take the differences into account. Where they miscalculated, they said, was in predicting Mr. Milosevic's behavior. "I don't think people, because most of us are human, expected it to be quite as brutal as this," said a Pentagon planner, who requested anonymity.

NATO did unleash a two-week bombing campaign against the Bosnian Serbs in August and September 1995 that played a pivotal role in bringing peace to the region, experts said. But it was in conjunction with a successful Croatian Army offensive in western Bosnia that bit into Bosnian Serb holdings, and it was preceded by months of diplomatic negotiations with Mr. Milosevic.

When the NATO strikes began in Bosnia, Mr. Milosevic had already been saying that he was ready to make peace. The problem, Mr. Milosevic had told Western diplomats, was the recalcitrance of the Bosnian Serb leaders Radovan Karadzic and General Ratko Mladic.

THAT WOMAN

By Richard Silvestri

On the first day of the 1995 air strikes, Mr. Milosevic won a key concession from Mr. Karadzic — the right to represent the Bosnian Serbs at peace talks.

The strikes then continued for two more weeks until the Bosnian Serbs, in particular General Mladic, the commander of the Bosnian Serb Army, agreed to withdraw their heavy weapons from around Sarajevo.

Then, a joint offensive by Bosnian Muslim and Croatian forces dramatically shifted the distribution of key Bosnian territory, making it easier for negotiators to draw the complex maps that eventually divided the country into a Bosnian Serb republic and a Muslim-Croatian Federation loosely united under joint federal institutions.

Robert Pape, a Dartmouth College professor and expert on air power, said that unlike the situation the Serbs face today in Kosovo, actual or threatened NATO bombing in 1995 was backed by a credible threat from ground troops. "In Bosnia, the air power and the Croatian and Muslim ground forces were working as a hammer and anvil," he said. "Right now, there is only a hammer."

Another difference is the pressure now on the alliance to succeed before Mr. Milosevic's forces sweep a majority of the 1.8 million ethnic Albanians out of Kosovo.

Kosovo also represents far more to Mr. Milosevic than the Serb-controlled chunks of Bosnia and Croatia did. When some of those lands were lost in 1995, Mr. Milosevic had little to fear from opponents in his power base in Serbia proper, where few people were prepared to die or suffer on behalf of Bosnian or Croatian Serbs. But Serbs view Kosovo as the birthplace of the Serbian nation.

Mr. Milosevic rose to power by supporting the cause of Kosovo's Serbian minority. He has apparently concluded that it would be politically fatal to relinquish it — and, if so, then only in a destructive fight with NATO.

That has left the Clinton administration scrambling. "From beginning to end, Mr. Milosevic was seen as someone who would negotiate in terms of brinkmanship," Mr. Cordesman said. "It is patently obvious that we did not plan for this."

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troops separated men and teenage boys from their families, apparently to be executed or relocated to one of three detention camps. The existence of such camps has not been independently confirmed.

"In many respects, the 150,000 refugees who have left Kosovo over the past week are the lucky ones," said a NATO spokesman, Jamie Shea. "The vast majority left behind face an unusually miserable situation. There are tens of thousands of internally displaced Kosovars who are living in woods and on mountain slopes. They have no food, no water and no shelter."

The Clinton administration said it was considering a request by ethnic Albanian insurgents for airdrops of relief supplies inside Kosovo. After speaking by phone with Hashim Thaqi, a leader of the Kosovo Liberation Army, the State Department spokesman, James Rubin, said, "They clearly are looking for human

itarian support, including airdrops."

Mr. Rubin said the request was under consideration by an interagency group that includes the Defense Department but that major obstacles must be overcome. A senior administration official said later, "We haven't made any decision to do it."

More than 164,000 people have been forced from Kosovo since March 24 — when the North Atlantic Treaty Organization began its air offensive against Yugoslav military targets — as part of what Western officials charge is a deliberate effort by the Belgrade government to alter the ethnic makeup of the province. Before the purge, ethnic Albanians outnumbered Serbs 9 to 1 in the province of 1.8 million people.

Officials of a United Nations relief agency described scenes at the border between Kosovo and Macedonia as "reminiscent of the last days of World War II when Europe was awash with refugees," an agency bulletin said.

In Macedonia, women, children and

elderly men wandered around with their few remaining possessions, "many of them deeply traumatized," the report said.

"The people of Kosovo are now subject to the worst violations of body and soul that can be described," said Carol Bellamy, the director of Unicef. "All of this is happening without humanitarian workers to alleviate the suffering."

Catherine Bertini, executive director of the UN World Food Program, noted that the last food rations in Kosovo were distributed March 23, just before relief workers left the province only hours ahead of the first NATO air strikes.

"Within 7 to 10 days, those people may be malnourished and starving," she said. "And it is impossible to reach them at this time."

The policy pursued by Yugoslav Army troops and Serbian paramilitary units since March 20 has been to cut off all major channels of food supplies to Kosovo's remaining ethnic Albanian population.

KOSOVO: Alarm Over Albanians Who Didn't or Couldn't Flee

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underlying competition may be one reason for the pride in new findings that the Jomon people, who lived in Japan even earlier, were more sophisticated than anybody had expected. Jomon sites have been found all over Japan, but the excavations here have been the most startling. The first discovery was of six enormous holes in the ground with the remains of wooden pillars one meter thick, evidently the base for some huge structure.

"This stunned people, and not only because it raised questions about how they cut and dragged the logs," said Yasuhiro Okada, an archeologist at the site. "But also because it suggests a certain population and level of technology and social organization. This all showed much greater skills than we had assumed for these hunter-gatherers, and it was a stunning discovery for most Japanese."

Further investigation showed that the site was a settled village with hundreds of inhabitants and separate cemeteries for children and adults, and that its people had dabbled in agriculture by planting chestnuts, millet and other domesticated plants. There apparently was trade, for the dig turned up jade from 650 kilometers to the south and obsidian from the northern island of Hokkaido.

The traditional view had been that virtually all culture originated in Korea and China and then spread to Japan. But now some Japanese archeologists point to evidence that some innovations went the other way. They suggest that buckwheat farming, lacquerware-making and other innovations originated in Japan and then traveled to Korea and China.

"We know that we have learned many things from Korea and China," said Makoto Sahara, a historian and director-general of the National Museum of Japanese History. "But not all things."

There is a complication, though. While modern Japanese feel pride in Jomon achievements, analysis of skeletons suggests that the Jomon did not look like modern Japanese.

Instead, they had features that made

them look more like Caucasians, and they seem to have resembled the Ainu, an ethnic group that still lives in tiny numbers in northern Japan. In the museum here in Aomori, Japanese tourists wandered by exhibits about the Jomon and gazed affectionately at pictures of what their Jomon ancestors are believed to have looked like — even though the only one in the room who looked much like the pictures was an American.

One theory has been that waves of immigrants from China and Korea quickly displaced the Jomon people and their culture around 300 B.C. They ushered in the Yayoi period, an era which emphasized rice paddy cultivation and whose people looked more like today's Japanese.

In the last decade, a growing body of skeletal, DNA and linguistic analysis has suggested that modern Japanese are the product of both Jomon people and the Yayoi immigrants from China and Korea — and perhaps other population infusions as well. Satoshi Horai, a scholar, argues that modern Japanese are a mix of about 35 percent Jomon and 65 percent Yayoi. That would mean that Japanese are descended mostly from Chinese and Koreans but also have an important Jomon component.

"The recent DNA studies clearly indicate the close genetic relationship between the Japanese on the main islands and the Koreans in particular," said Keiichi Omoto, a leading scholar.

Scholars note that despite the widespread perception that Japanese are homogeneous, there is considerable regional variation in appearance. Japanese in northern provinces tend to have rounder eyes, more body hair and wider faces, traits that may suggest a bit more Jomon heritage. A museum at the Aomori site offers a computer screen to advise visitors on the proportion of their blood that comes from the Jomon, based on their eyes, body hair and other characteristics.

"We know that the ethnic Albanians of Kosovo are going through worse trials. 'I can see them,' he said. 'But when you're under attack, when you're at war, your world gets very small. There's not always room for everyone else.'

Indignation, Anxiety and Wry Humor In Belgrade

By Steven Erlanger
New York Times Service

BELGRADE — It was not especially surprising that Serbian state television would show the movie "Wag the Dog" or even "Apocalypse Now" in an effort to compare NATO's intervention in Kosovo to another Vietnam.

But it did come as something of a shock here, where President Slobodan Milosevic has widespread and undisputed powers, to see state television broadcasting parts of the Charlie Chaplin film, "The Great Dictator."

Concerns were soon allayed, however, when the newscast that followed the film compared President Bill Clinton to Hitler and NATO to the Nazis, who bombed Belgrade in 1941.

While the Yugoslav government is rationing fuel, state television is having no difficulty finding ample supplies of incendiary language.

NATO and its members, by order of the Information Ministry, are regularly referred to as "NATO aggressors," "beasts," "criminals," "villains," "thugs," "fascist legions" and "hordes of murderers."

Serbian citizens and officials widely complain of being demonized by the Western media, as if they are entirely evil and are simply committing unspeakable atrocities because they cannot help themselves.

On the other hand, Serbian television has hardly sanctified President Clinton, who is variously called "Bill Hitler" or "Adolf Clinton" — or sometimes, for simplicity's sake, simply "Fuehrer."

Mr. Clinton has also been given choicer epithets like "the American pimp," "war criminal," "scoundrel" and most elaborately, "saxophone player, criminal and murderer."

Belgrade residents have become frantic about NATO plans to extend its bombings to government and military buildings downtown, even as two nights have gone by without such bombings.

No one knows whether NATO really means to bomb the heavily populated downtown, or whether heavy cloud cover has spared them.

Misko, a denizen of the Ipanema cafe downtown, says he lives near the Defense Ministry and can barely keep down his food. "We should all go to Bermuda and wait for the year 2000," he said, noting in the next moment that the government has banned all men from the ages of 18 to 60 from leaving the country during this state of war.

"I love going to Italy," said another patron, Alexander, 37 years old. "I love the light, the food, everything. In a way," he said, "it's our culture, too."

But the war is isolating Belgrade and the Serbs. Independent radio and television stations are being shut down, all flights into and out of the country have halted and most foreigners have fled.

"All of us will end up in Jagodina," Alexander said, a town in central Serbia synonymous with provincial tedium.

Dragana says she always imagined a life abroad. But now, she says, she feels "more and more Serb," held to the land here. "I can't leave my parents now or our people," she said. "I feel like a hostage. But in a way, I don't mind. I have no choice."

Serbs are an ironic race. In a reference to the downed F-117A Stealth fighter, one placard at a music rally read: "The only good American is an invisible American." A graffito on a wall said: "Columbus — damn your curiosity!"

And a new billboard, near the Hyatt and Intercontinental hotels where many journalists are staying, shows the target symbol and the words: "Stop the Bombs. Just Do It."

Milan called to say hello and describe his life in the shelters, and was soon in tears. His 16-month-old daughter, Dushanka, has just begun to talk. "Some of the first words she's said have been 'sirens' and 'bomb,'" he said, his voice cracking. "What kind of madness is this?"

Is Time Running Out?/New Pressures on Fragile Balkan States

Western Europe Fears An Influx of Kosovars

Pressure by Job-Seekers Could Be Explosive

By Roger Cohen
New York Times Service

BERLIN — The huge numbers of ethnic Albanians fleeing Kosovo are raising acute concerns in West European countries about the potential arrival of tens of thousands of refugees in societies already strained by high unemployment, sluggish growth and simmering resentment of foreigners.

Fearing a politically explosive influx, Germany said Thursday that Kosovo's Albanian outcasts should remain in the Balkans and stay outside "Western or Northern Europe."

Germany is particularly concerned. More than 4 million people, or more than 10 percent of the work force, is jobless, and 350,000 refugees poured in from Bosnia during the 1992-1995 war. But France and Italy face similar problems and appear equally determined to ensure that the refugees do not move west.

Over time, aid officials said, the issue could drive a wedge between the United States and its European NATO partners because it illustrates, in blunt form, how broadly destabilizing the conflict is on the European continent while America has a large buffer, the Atlantic Ocean.

"We believe the refugees should remain as close to Kosovo as possible,"

the deputy foreign minister of Germany, Guenter Verheugen, said Thursday during a brief visit to the Macedonian capital, Skopje. "Our assumption is that we will soon achieve our political goal and the refugees will be able to return to Kosovo."

It was not clear, given the state of the conflict, what led Mr. Verheugen to that assumption. He added that "acceptance of the refugees into Western or Northern Europe" would send "a completely false signal."

The implications of a policy of zero acceptance of refugees appeared fraught

with danger for the Balkans. It will mean that fragile states, with scant resources and, in the case of Macedonia, a tenuous balance of ethnic groups, will be subjected to enormous new social pressures if the refugees are unable to return soon.

Yet accepting refugees also involves political risk. Austria, a country of just over 8 million people that took in 70,000 refugees during the Bosnian war, has said it will accept refugees from Kosovo. But on Thursday the party of Joerg Haider, a far-right politician who has consistently campaigned against foreigners and immigrants, attacked the government's decision, saying Austria had neither space nor ability to cope with the influx.

Mr. Verheugen's statement came as Joschka Fischer, the German foreign minister, on Thursday chaired a hastily convened conference in Bonn on the plight of the refugees. After talks with other European ministers and with Sadako Ogata, the UN high commissioner for refugees, Mr. Fischer suggested that Western policy should consist of sending money and food to the Balkans to sustain the refugees there.

Keeping the refugees close to Kosovo also helps to underpin statements by ministers in NATO governments that the ethnic Albanians will eventually go home.

The policy outlined at the conference Thursday was consistent with that of the center-left government of Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, which has tried, under fierce attack from the right, to make German citizenship available to more of the 7 million foreigners living here, but has been intransigent in saying that there is no room for new arrivals.

"We have reached the limits, the point where we have to say we cannot bear any more," Otto Schily, the interior minister, said last year. "The majority of Germans agree with me: zero immigration for now. The burden has become too great."

"I still believe that we have a good possibility of achieving our mission with the means that we have deployed," he said.

In Brussels, North Atlantic Treaty Organization officials forcefully contended that their 10-day-old campaign of air strikes had begun to take a toll on the Yugoslav Army and paramilitary forces directly implicated in the vast involuntary migration.

Despite concern expressed in some circles that time may be running out for NATO's military effort, alliance officers expressed confidence in their systematic plan and noted that allied reinforcements were on the way.

The United States has ordered 13 more F-117A Stealth fighter-bombers to Italy. A U.S. Navy destroyer and a cruiser entered the Mediterranean on Thursday loaded with cruise missiles. The U.S. aircraft carrier Theodore Roosevelt was expected to arrive during the weekend, bringing with it some 75 aircraft.

Air Commodore David Wilby of Britain told reporters in Brussels that Yugoslav paramilitary forces were continuing "ethnic cleansing" in a broad triangular region southwest of the provincial capital, Pristina, but that there were indications that some tanks were running out of fuel.

"We have, despite the weather, pressed home attacks against fielded forces," he said. Reports from inside Serbia indicated that the bombing continued on Friday.

Meantime, these other military and political developments were reported:

"The fate of the three U.S. Army soldiers held by the Yugoslav authorities after being captured along the Serbian



Leah H. Bendler/Reuters

NATO: Milosevic Tries to Rid Kosovo of Its People, Clinton Says

Continued from Page 1

refugees, as he has insisted must be done, Mr. Clinton said that "some sort of security arrangement" would be needed, including at least elements of the Rambouillet peace accord, backed by "some sort of international force."

Asked yet again whether ground troops might have to be introduced, Mr. Clinton denied any such plan even while appearing to leave the door open.

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Meantime, these other military and political developments were reported:

"The fate of the three U.S. Army soldiers held by the Yugoslav authorities after being captured along the Serbian

border with Macedonia remained unclear. After saying Thursday that the three men would face a military trial, various reports from Belgrade indicated that the government was conducting an inquiry in private that could yield further developments during the weekend.

Yugoslavia's information minister was quoted as saying that the three men would not be harmed, and there were other unconfirmed reports that they could have any court sentence suspended after the conflict between NATO and Belgrade was resolved.

In Belgrade, President Milosevic asked Russia for military aid in a meeting with Russian Parliament members, according to Tanjug, the Yugoslav news agency. Belgrade's defense minister said he was prepared to give Moscow pieces of the U.S. Stealth fighter downed last Saturday.

NATO indicated that it did not favor paraching food and supplies to Kosovars trapped inside the Paganusa valley because it feared the supplies would fall into the hands of the Yugoslav military units that had trapped the refugees.

Mr. Shea, the NATO spokesman, did not dispute reports that NATO was considering the creation of an eventual protectorate in Kosovo, saying, "Refugees return only when they are protected."

Britain's defense minister said he had evidence showing that Mr. Milosevic was plotting a coup in Montenegro, a republic of the Yugoslav federation that currently has an anti-Milosevic government.

Commodore Wilby contended that the Kosovo Liberation Army, the rebel force fighting Belgrade troops, "has not been defeated" and was recruiting new members.

A question on the mind of many analysts was whether time was rapidly running out for NATO, for U.S. policy and for fleeing Kosovars. The New York Times quoted a senior Pentagon official as saying that Mr. Milosevic's forces appeared to be wrapping up a campaign to "carve out a Serbian enclave in Kosovo, having cornered the last remnants of the Kosovo rebel forces."

The day before, General Wesley Clark, NATO's commander, told journalists: "Those of us who've grown up in liberal democracies have a hard time truly appreciating what's happening right now in Kosovo. It's a grim combination of terror and ethnic cleansing on a vast scale. It's being perpetrated largely against defenseless civilians by the last vestige of a hard-core Communist dictatorship in Europe. Man does not do this to his fellow man."

Mr. Shea reiterated Friday that NATO was "extremely concerned" about the fate of many missing male Kosovars.

quired to start an air war in the heart of Europe.

This confluence of political and strategic dilemmas has provoked a crisis that is seen, from the vantage point of the president's political advisers, to strike with the suddenness of lightning.

Just six weeks after Mr. Clinton survived his impeachment battle, some aides acknowledge their surprise at being in a confrontation that is just as stressful within the White House and holds life-and-death consequences that were never present in the yearlong Monica Lewinsky scandal.

"He's very tired," said a friend of the president's, describing Mr. Clinton's mood in the midst of the crisis. "But he's very determined. He believes this is a moral duty. He knows we had to do this."

Mr. Clinton's predicament, say a variety of people who know him, is replete with ironies. He grew up watching well-

intended leaders — including personal heroes such as John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson — sink gradually into an undefined and ultimately unwinable war in Vietnam. This generational experience was reinforced by his early experience as president, in which he expanded a humanitarian mission in Somalia only to retreat after 18 U.S. Army Rangers were killed.

But another set of instincts is tugging

Mr. Clinton in the opposite direction.

The success of the NATO peacekeeping

in Bosnia, which Mr. Clinton pursued in defiance of his reputation as a politician

who always follows the polls, bolstered his confidence mightily in the efficacy of American power abroad.

Meanwhile, missed opportunities haunt him. At an emotional appearance in Rwanda last year, he acknowledged that he and other world leaders should have intervened to prevent the 1994 genocide in that African nation.

Moreover, Mr. Clinton plainly responds at a personal level to the Balkans bloodshed. Many times he has said the warring there has implications for the American experiment in cultural pluralism, and that allowing ethnic warfare to go unchecked risks letting the "21st century world" descend into "a time of chaos and madness," as he put it in a speech Tuesday to a group of electronics industry executives.

Foreign policy experts say that Mr. Clinton's middle-ground approach — bombing but no troops — may have put more at stake than he bargained for, once Mr. Milosevic responded to the bombing by accelerating his assault on the ethnic Albanians in Kosovo.

"What's changed is the reputation and the honor of the administration and NATO," said Richard Betts, a foreign policy analyst at Columbia University.

"We've gotten into a war, we've committed our resources and our reputation to trying to do something."

For now, the White House said it remained confident that something would be achieved.

"We are going to keep bombing him," a senior administration official said. "Eventually, Milosevic is going to cry uncle."

REFUGEES: Hungry Fight for Bread

Continued from Page 1

Surroj, a Unicef assistant project manager from Pristina.

Many said the most frightening part of their journey was in Pristina, where police went door to door, put them in buses and later packed them into the train and buses for the journey out of Kosovo.

"In Kukes district, the situation has become absolutely critical," Information Minister Musa Ulqini said on television. "During the night and up to now, the influx of Albanians in need of help arriving from Kosovo has been extraordinary."

Albania, Europe's poorest country, has taken in an estimated 130,000 refugees from Kosovo since the North Atlantic Treaty Organization began attacks on Yugoslavia.

Prime Minister Pandeli Majko said Kukes was crammed with around 90,000 refugees and the situation was "dramatic."

Mr. Majko said he was in constant contact with other countries urging that a relief operation launched several days ago be accelerated.

Those arriving in Macedonia compared their train trip to a real-life version of many of the movies they had seen about the Holocaust.

Herded into the trains shoulder to shoulder reportedly at the point of a gun, more than 20,000 refugees arrived Friday in Blace to a harsh welcome, stranded in a no-man's-land between two frontiers.

"It's the most humiliating thing that can happen to a human being, to be expelled from his own land," said Flaka

(Reuters, AP, AFP)

BLACE, Macedonia — The valley hummed with thousands of voices, the hillside and fields below shifted constantly with crowds of people. Along the train tracks a steady line of stumbling figures moved forward to join the human mass.

Well over 10,000 refugees from Kosovo are camped here in the open, just over the border in Macedonia. They are still arriving by the thousands, turning the fields into a sprawling refugee camp.

They have come from Kosovo's capital, Pristina, and other towns, herded at gunpoint by Serbian police into trains, trucks and buses in an operation that recalls a Nazi or Stalinist deportation.

The police ordered as out of the house," said Zeljko Krasniqi, an ethnic Albanian builder from Pristina. "They put us in a line, along with all the neighbors, and marched us to the railway station."

After a night in the station amid thousands of other displaced people, and under guard of armed police, they were loaded onto a train and sent to the border. On the Serbian side of the border, they were ordered out and told to walk along the tracks into Macedonia.

Everyone told the same story. Some arrived by



Emma Bonino, in Brussels on Friday, where she urged "armed protection for the humanitarian aid" to Kosovo.

Continued from Page 1

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ART

Giddy Bacchanalia of Imagery

By Roberta Smith
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — There is new temporary treasure to be found at the Museum of Modern Art right now, and it lies at the center of the engrossing, challenging exhibition of early drawings by the German painter Sigmar Polke. The third gallery in this show, which has been organized by Margit Rowell, chief curator of drawings, and is devoted to works from 1963 to 1974, presents only drawings, all dated 1969-71.

But each is the size of a large wall, and two even curl seductively on the floor like magic carpets. All are dense with overlapping images, exploding forms, delicate notations, mad scribbles, florid stains, seeping colors, even footprints. Fitted together from smaller pieces of paper, their mixes of media suggest a startling degree of physical experimentation and include paint, oil, felt-tip pen, ball-point pen, crayon, pencil, stencil and collage.

The ensemble effect is one of the most astounding artistic sights currently available in New York, and the first encounter can take your breath away. (This is only the third time the four have been shown together, and their first U.S. appearance.) The drawings easily live up to their apocalyptic title: "The Ride on the Eight of In-

finity." I love the unexpected innocence of the "eight": It is like a child's on-first-sight name for the infinity symbol's double loop.

In the first of these drawings a beanie, albeit rabbit-like, face emerges in four stages from deep pale-green space; around it is a rose window of clambering human silhouettes, outlines of a real person lying on the paper. In the next, a blocky robot-like head is sprayed in the face with a hose, manned by a vivid blue hand that seems related to a face emerging from a cloud as a genie would. In the third, a giant motocyclist seems dramatically from above surges diagonally across the paper, trailing a huge shell-like coil that includes a highway, a star-spangled banner sky and a woman's profile. And in the final one, drawing takes over as swirling cyclones and spirals of scribbles move in and out of expanses of red paint.

An obvious comparison is with the three big classic "drip" paintings that formed the heart of the Modern's recent Jackson Pollock retrospective. But in place of the Pollocks' irreducible unity and enveloping oneness, the Polkes substitute a virtual babble of competing intellectual, visual and cultural forces.

These works did not result from an extended meditative dance around the canvas. They came in fits and starts

over time, in gestures and images large and small, in amendments, accidents, obliterations and accretions, in fermentation.

It is hard to think of them as the product of one person, or even a single culture. Abstract Expressionism as filtered through Pop Art, '60s psychedelia, even American painting of the '80s, they're all here, but so are Egypt, Byzantium and Pompeii.

From certain angles, the gallery suggests some opulent inner sanctum, a hidden chamber brilliant with glowing tapestries, frescoes or ancient cave paintings. For once, the faintly oppressive subterranean atmosphere of the Modern's euphemistically titled "mezzanine" (read basement) galleries feels just right. It is best to see these drawings first. They supply a kind of fire not unlike winter morning porridge; this can power you through the rest of the show, which sometimes feels a bit arctic.

One problem is that the remaining galleries don't seem quite full, as if the show needed either less space or more art. Given the roving exuberance of Polke's art, the installation should have been, well, more effervescent. It is also too bad that the show stops so early in Polke's career, although it reaches the point when his drawings had successfully established the basic tenets of his art.

The Endgame in Chinese Art?

As Fears of Exploitation Grow, the Stream Slows to a Trickle

By Souren Melikian
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — Slowly, a feeling of endgame is spreading across the market for Chinese art. This year, it came out as seldom before during "Asian Week," which opened March 22 on the auction scene and effectively continues well into April with the important selling shows by dealers. The last one, "Games People Play: Ancient Pastimes of Asia," at E&J Frankel on Madison Avenue, closes on May 1.

At the root of the problem lies the very phenomenon that has turned Chinese art into a huge commercial success story in the last 25 years. Around 1980 a stream of bronzes, ceramic vessels and jades from Neolithic times to the 14th century began to pour into the Western markets via Hong Kong.

Soon, a disturbing number of masterpieces made it clear that major archaeological sites were plundered for profit, with the trail of destruction that accompanies uncontrolled digging and the disastrous loss of historical information that this implies. The problem was raised in this column in connection with some stupendous bronzes seen at the 1994 Paris Biennale. Eventually, the stream slowed down until it became the present trickle.

At the Asian Art Fair, which closed March 30, the new panoply was readily apparent but, paradoxically, this was commercially beneficial. Sales shot up. Collectors driven by passion are not much given to worrying about the future, when public opinion might turn against the cultural havoc generated by the rape of archaeological sites.

At the Asian fair, the rarities were snapped up with greater celerity than usual. On the stand of Gisein Croes of Brussels the finest pieces sold within hours of the opening. A fantastic squat bronze jar of the fourth or third century B.C. with rows of rectangular panels enclosing abstract designs on a turquoise inlaid ground was bought by a New York collector before the show even opened.

So was an oval vessel dug up from the same tomb and probably made in the same workshop. Both vessels carried price tags in the area of \$100,000. For good measure, the same collector also acquired a sixth-century B.C. bronze mythical beast with the body of a tapir, the muzzle of a rabbit and horns, for more than \$1 million, sources said.

In the selling shows around town, the buying urge appeared to be even more compelling. At 41 East 57th St., James J. Lally had sold more than half his jades, bronzes and ceramics before the show (due to close on April 10) opened its doors. The first to go, bought from the catalogue, were the pieces that reveal new aspects of Chinese art, or, in some cases, of the art of cultures influenced by China that retained very different aesthetics.

Such is a mysterious civilization that thrived in present-day Yunnan Province during Han times and later. A cylindrical vessel with a conical cover cast in the form of stylized mountain peaks reproduces a known Han type, but the strange scenes featuring animal-headed characters engraved in a wildly baroque style are unique. So is the geometrically stylized peacock designed as a grip on the cover. The circular casket sold in the area of \$150,000 one day before the formal opening.

Most telling is the proneness of museums to give in to the panic feeling that these may be the last "good" days. The Minneapolis Institute of Arts rushed to buy a hitherto unpublished early Shang vessel of the 13th century B.C. with a dark brown patination — an indication that it



A pair of painted terra-cotta 'lokapalas' of the early Tang period.

came to light decades ago when archaic bronzes unearthed accidentally were thus treated in China. That may have made the \$65,000 vessel seem more legitimate.

But the same museum also succumbed to a beautiful and so far unique semi-spherical bowl of the fourth century B.C. on a tall waisted stem, with a cover in the form of a tripod bowl turned upside down. This vessel, which ranks among the masterpieces of Zhou bronze-making, must have been dug up in very recent times, judging from the style and the patina.

Excitement rose by several octaves in the show put together by Giuseppe Ekenazi and his son Daniel at 32 East 57th St. on the premises of Pace Wildenstein. Did the beautiful display conceived by Daniel Ekenazi make a difference? Or was it just the last-chance climate? The rarities sold as if the world was to end the day after.

Another sign that change is in the wind is the growing keenness of Chinese collectors wherever they are. At Christie's, a Taiwanese bought the \$42,500 masterpiece of Tang earthenware sculpture representing a courtesan prostrating herself before the king.

In the same sale, a mountain landscape in early Song style that was coaxed out of the Stephen Jankunc 3d collection of Chinese art by Theow-Huang Tang, Christie's international director of Chinese art, became the surprise of the week. A Chinese connoisseur residing in the United States bought for \$1.43 million a scroll for which Christie's hoped to get \$50,000 to \$70,000.

Most significant, perhaps, are the growing indications of some collecting activity in mainland China. Grace Bruce Wu of Hong Kong, the leading specialist in Chinese furniture, says that the Chinese spontaneously relate to the architecture and ornament of Ming and Qing pieces. I am convinced that soon they will look at bronzes and pottery, take the measure of the havoc wrought by commercial diggers and react — in the Chinese manner, without shouting. The day that happens, the present trickle of antiquities will dry up altogether. It may not be so far off.

ARTS

Life and Death, Black and White

By Michael Gibson
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Touhami Ennadre, born in the Medina of Casablanca in 1953, came to France with his family at the age of 7 and grew up first in the shantytown of La Courneuve to the north of Paris and later in the housing development that replaced it. When he was 21 and still uncertain about his future, his mother gave him a camera shortly before she died.

As can be seen from his exhibition at the Maison Européenne de la Photographie (5-7 Rue de Fourcy, to May 30), the gift was an act of fate.

All Ennadre's pictures are very large — 130 by 160 centimeters (51 by 63 inches) all are black and white, all show their highly enlarged subject: a human hand, a newborn infant, a human skeleton emerging screaming from the frozen lava at Herculaneum, against a deep black ground, as though each subject were arising, stark and detailed like some fateful dream, out of an impenetrable, unlighted void.

Ennadre deals with other subjects too, but the strongly contrasted blacks and whites are heavily charged with the symbolic resonance of life and death, and the eye is constantly making it see.

tween the organic flaccidity of living and dying flesh (squid on a table, entrails and meat in a slaughterhouse) and the skeletal rigidity of death.

to the city of Fez in Morocco. In all these series he dwells upon the minute detail, the doorknob, the enameled bowl, the imprint on the wall that the like traces left by hands of former days.

Vieira da Silva's lifework is composed of labyrinthine medium-size canvases that sometimes rise before one like some immaterial monochromes, and sometimes vacillate like scalding in a tornado.

Making one's way through her exhibition at the Musée Maillol (to June 13), one soon senses that something in these paintings is either absent or not apparent. They all bear the imprint of their day, which was that of triumphant abstraction. Vieira's work is actually a compromise between the type of abstraction in which everything unfolds on the surface of the canvas and a stylized perspective.

But what is actually going on here?

The word "moucharabieh" may provide a key. It designates the sort of fretwork window screen familiar in Arab countries that allows the breeze to circulate and the womenfolk to look out on the world without being seen. Suppose all these paintings were intricate screens behind which the painter herself remains concealed.

A photo from Ennadre's "Les Mains" series.

Such pictures are like a summons, but Ennadre has also devoted sequences of pictures to the cave paintings of Lascaux, France, to the trance states of voodoo ritual, to the Alhambra in Spain.

Wednesday 21 - Thursday 22 April, 1999 — Rooms 1 & 7 Wednesday at 2:30 p.m., Thursday at 11 a.m. & 2 p.m. On the occasion of restoration work at the Meurice Hotel, partial sale of FURNITURE, LIGHTS (of bedrooms and living rooms), DOUBLE CURTAINS, BED COVERS. On view Tuesday, April 20, from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesday, April 21, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. ETUDE TAJAN, 37, rue des Mathurins, 75008 Paris. Tel: 33 (01) 53 30 30 30 - Fax: 33 (01) 53 30 30 31. Web: <http://www.tajan.com> - Email: tajan@worldnet.fr

Wednesday 21 - Thursday 22 April, 1999 — Room 9 at 11 a.m. & 2:15 p.m. VERY GREAT WINES and SPIRITS from connoisseurs. ETUDE TAJAN, 37, rue des Mathurins, 75008 Paris. Tel: 33 (01) 53 30 30 30 - Fax: 33 (01) 53 30 31. Web: <http://www.tajan.com> - Email: tajan@worldnet.fr

Monday, April 26, 1999 — Room 1 at 11 a.m. & 2 p.m. NUMISMATIC COLLECTORS COINS, ANTIQUE, ROYAL FRENCH, CONTEMPORARY AND FOREIGN, MEDALLION, NUMISMATIC BOOKS. On view at the experts' office, 77, rue de Richelieu 75002 Paris, immediately on receipt of the catalogue and until April 23 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. ETUDE TAJAN, 37, rue des Mathurins, 75008 Paris. Tel: 33 (01) 53 30 30 30 - Fax: 33 (01) 53 30 31. Web: <http://www.tajan.com> - Email: tajan@worldnet.fr

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MUSEUMS IN FRANCE

ALONE WITH THE IMPRESSIONISTS

New and lesser-known museums in the French capital and the provinces hold untold riches.

On a first trip to Paris, visits to the Louvre, the Musée d'Orsay and the Picasso Museum are a must for most tourists, but on subsequent trips, why not avoid the crowds and tour some of the smaller, lesser-known museums? Many are true gems.

A good place to start is the recently renovated Musée Jacquemart André (158, bd Haussmann; tel.: 01 42 89 04 91), the gracious mansion where the collection of wealthy 19th-century art lovers Edouard André and Nellie Jacquemart is displayed. The couple particularly fancied the 18th-century French school and Italian Renaissance art. Lunch in the museum's beautiful café, with its ceiling fresco by Tiepolo, is a unique experience.

The Musée Marmottan (2, rue Louis Boilly; tel.: 01 42 24 07 02), housed in a lovely 19th-century mansion near the Bois de Boulogne, has a collection of paintings by Claude Monet, including some of his water lilies and the famous "Impression, Sunrise," plus part of Monet's personal art collection and other works.

For more Monet, the Orangerie (Jardin des Tuilleries; tel.: 01 42 97 48 16) is a peaceful place to sit and contemplate the water lilies.

Literary museums

Little museums with literary connections abound in Paris. The Musée de la Vie Romantique (16, rue Chaptal; tel.: 01 48 74 95 38) honors George Sand in the former home of artist Ary Scheffer, whose guests included Sand, Chopin, Liszt and Ingres.

Fans of the sharp-tongued letter writer Madame de Sévigné will want to visit her former home, the Musée Carnavalet (23, rue de Sévigné; tel.: 01 42 72 21 13), now the museum of Paris history. Exhibits include a replica of Marcel Proust's corded bedroom and interesting documents from the time of the Revolution.

Artist's studios

The Musée Gustave Moreau (14, rue de la Rochefoucauld; tel.: 01 48 74 38 50) is located in the 19th-century Symbolist artist's former town house. More than 6,000 of his paintings and other works are on display in this fascinating, quiet museum.

A relatively new museum devoted to a Parisian artist is the Musée Maillol (59, rue de Grenelle; tel.: 01 42 22 59 58), created by Aristide Maillol's former model, Dina Vierny. Housed in a handsome 18th-century mansion, the museum also holds temporary exhibitions of works by other artists.

The sculptor Henri Bouchard's studio has been preserved as the artist left it when he died in 1960. His works are presented along with the tools of his trade at the Musée Bouchard (25, rue de l'Yvette; tel.: 01 46 47 63 46).

The contents of another sculptor's studio can be found in an often-overlooked little building on the esplanade next to the Centre Georges Pompidou. Constantin Brancusi's works and tools have been transported from their original location to the Atelier Brancusi (Rue Rambuteau/Rue Saint-Martin; tel.: 01 44 78 12 33), in a new building designed by Renzo Piano.

In the more intimate setting of one of Paris's most beautiful squares, the Place Furstenberg, is the Musée National Eugène Delacroix (6, rue de Furstenberg; tel.: 01 44 41 86 50). The artist's works and memorabilia of his life are shown in his former home and studio, along with a private garden. A splendid garden is also one of the many attractions of the Musée Rodin (77, rue de Varenne; tel.: 01 47 05 01 34).

Some Paris museums are notable for their architecture as

well as their contents. The Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain (261, bd Raspail; tel.: 01 42 18 56 50) was handsomely designed by Jean Nouvel, and holds exhibitions on themes like "love" and "nature." Nouvel also designed the Institut du Monde Arabe (1, rue des Fossés-Saint-Bernard; tel.: 01 40 51 38 38). Exhibits focus on the arts of the Arab world, and fine views of Paris can be had from the rooftop terrace and restaurant. The newly opened Musée de la Musique (221, av. Jean-Jaurès; tel.: 01 44 84 44 84), with stunning modern architecture by Christian de Portzamparc, has a collection of more than 900 instruments from the 17th century to the present.

Tour de France: Art abounds in the provinces
The French provinces are home to a wide range of museums that have recently been spiffing up their collections and hiring renowned architects to build impressive new homes for them.

The latest addition is Nice's Musée des Arts Asiatiques (405, promenade des Anglais-Arénas, Nice; tel.: 04 92 29 37 00). The only museum of Asian art on the Côte d'Azur, it opened in October 1998. Designed by Japanese architect Kenzo Tange, the building has a minimalist design based on two geometric forms: The square, which represents the earth, and the circle, symbol of the sky. Located in the Phoenix botanical garden next to an artificial lake, the museum's walls are faced with white Carrara marble.

The spacious, light-filled interior has a graceful curved staircase leading up to a rotunda, and there is a tearoom and a gift shop. Unlike most museums, this one was not created to house an existing collection, but is depending on public collections and loans from other museums, including Paris's prestigious museum of Asian art, the Musée Guimet, as well as an annual acquisitions budget of 2 million francs (\$327,948), to fill its galleries.

The city of Grenoble was the first in France to have a museum of modern art, housed in its Musée des Beaux-Arts since 1920. Now, the museum's collection has a handsome new home that was conceived with it in mind. The Musée de Grenoble, opened four years ago and designed by three local architects, Antoine Félix-Faure, Olivier Félix-Faure and Philippe Macary, is a study in minimalism, light and purity. Visitors can walk through an abbreviated history of art, from Egyptian antiquities through the Italian Renaissance and right up to modernists Christian Boltanski and Pierre Soulages. Some 1,200 paintings and sculptures are displayed in the museum's 5,500 square meters of exhibition space.

Lille, a city being reborn thanks to the opening of the Chemel Tunnel, has spent six years renovating and enlarging its Palais des Beaux-Arts (Place de la République; tel.: 03 20 07 80 00), considered the second French museum after the Louvre. Architects Jean-Marc Ibos and Myrto Viarit were commissioned to open up the museum to the city and make it more welcoming. Reopened in 1997, the museum now has additional temporary exhibition space and three new de-

partments: relief maps, 19th-century French sculpture, and medieval and Renaissance art. Its collection boasts masterpieces by Rubens, Goya and Courbet, plus a fine collection of drawings by Raphael.

Nancy's Musée des Beaux-Arts (3, place Stanislas; tel.: 03 83 85 30 72), considered one of the best provincial fine arts museums in France, has just undergone a renovation that has doubled its exhibition space. The museum is notable for its collection of 17th-century Italian art and for some 400 pieces of Dauré glassware produced in the city. The museum is also the home of Edouard Manet's "Autumn," a portrait of his lover, Mery Laurent. •



From classical sculpture to contemporary art, France is a museum-lover's paradise.

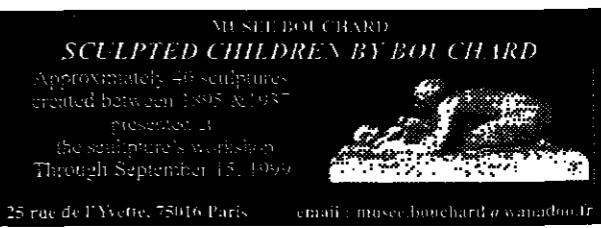
UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

PARIS

- Centre Georges Pompidou. "David Hockney: Space/Landscape," to April 18. "Robert Delaunay: From Impressionism to Abstraction," June 3-Aug. 16, Rue Rambuteau and Rue Saint-Merri. Tel.: 01 44 78 12 33.
- Grand Palais. "A Friend of Cézanne and Van Gogh: Doctor Gachet," to April 26. "Egyptian Art at the Time of the Pyramids," April 9-July 12. 3, av. du Général-Eisenhower. Tel.: 01 44 13 17 47.
- Jeu de Paume. "Georges Pompidou et la Modernité," to April 18. "Gutai," May 4-June 27. Place de la Concorde. Tel.: 01 42 60 69 69.
- Louvre. "The Essence of Architecture," April 16-July 12. 16th- and 18th-century Italian and French architectural drawings. "The Bronzes of the Crown," April 16-July 12. Tel.: 01 40 20 51 51.
- Maison Européenne de la Photographie. Photos by Ralph Gibson, Catherine Ikram and Louis Filié. Rachid Khimoun, to May 30. 57, rue de Fourcy. Tel.: 01 44 78 75 00.
- Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris. "Mark Rothko Retrospective," to April 18. "Painting After Abstractionism," May 20-Sep. 19. 11, av. du Président-Wilson. Tel.: 01 53 67 40 00.
- Musée de la Saïda. "Photographers in Algeria in the 19th Century," April 15-July 12. 12, rue Surcouf. Tel.: 01 45 56 60 17.
- Musée d'Orsay. "Edward Burne-Jones, 1833-1898," to June 6. 1, rue de Bellechasse. Tel.: 01 40 49 48 14.
- Musée Picasso. "David Hockney: Dialogue with Picasso," to May 3, 5, rue de Thorigny. Tel.: 01 42 71 25 21.
- Petit Palais. "Morocco: Treasures of the Kingdom," April 15-July 18. Av. Winston-Churchill. Tel.: 01 42 65 12 73.

PROVINCES

- Musée de Picardie, Amiens. "Miró: Jardiner des Rêves," to May 2. 48, rue de la République. Tel.: 03 22 97 14 00.
- capcMusée d'Art Contemporain, Bordeaux. "Cindy Sherman: Retrospective," to April 25. "Miró," May 20-Aug. 2, rue Fémère. Tel.: 05 56 00 82 50.
- Musée de Grenoble, Grenoble. "Art in Berlin from the End of the 19th Century to the Present," to November. Place de Lavalette. Tel.: 04 76 63 44 44.
- Palais des Beaux-Arts, Lille. "Furious Medea: Eugène Delacroix's Preparatory Drawings," to May 19. Place de la République. Tel.: 03 20 06 78 00.
- Musée des Beaux-Arts, Lyon. "Raoul Dufy," to April 18. 20, pl. des Terreaux. Tel.: 04 72 10 17 40.
- Musée des Beaux-Arts, Nancy. "Painting and Art Nouveau," to July 26. 3, place Stanislas. Tel.: 03 83 85 30 72.

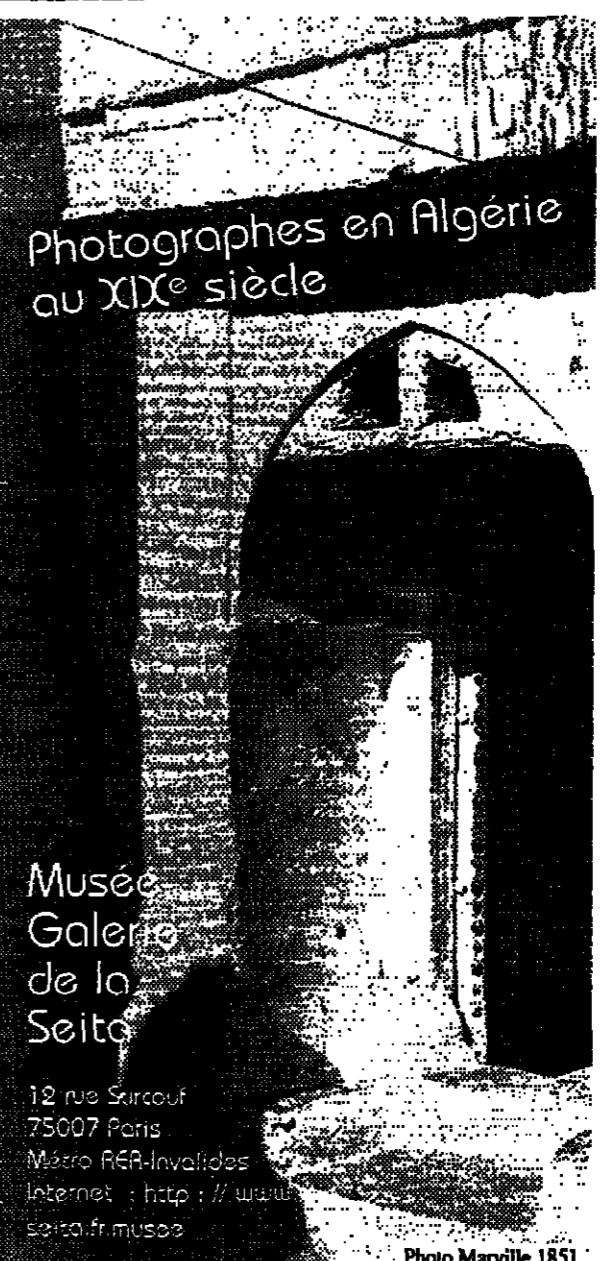
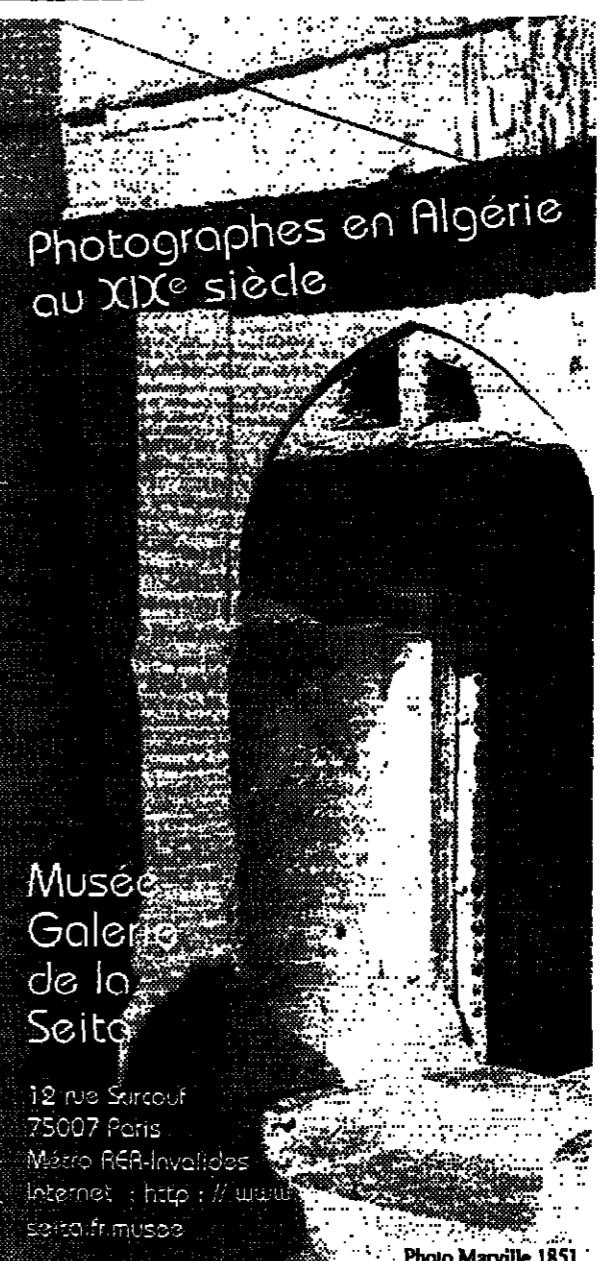
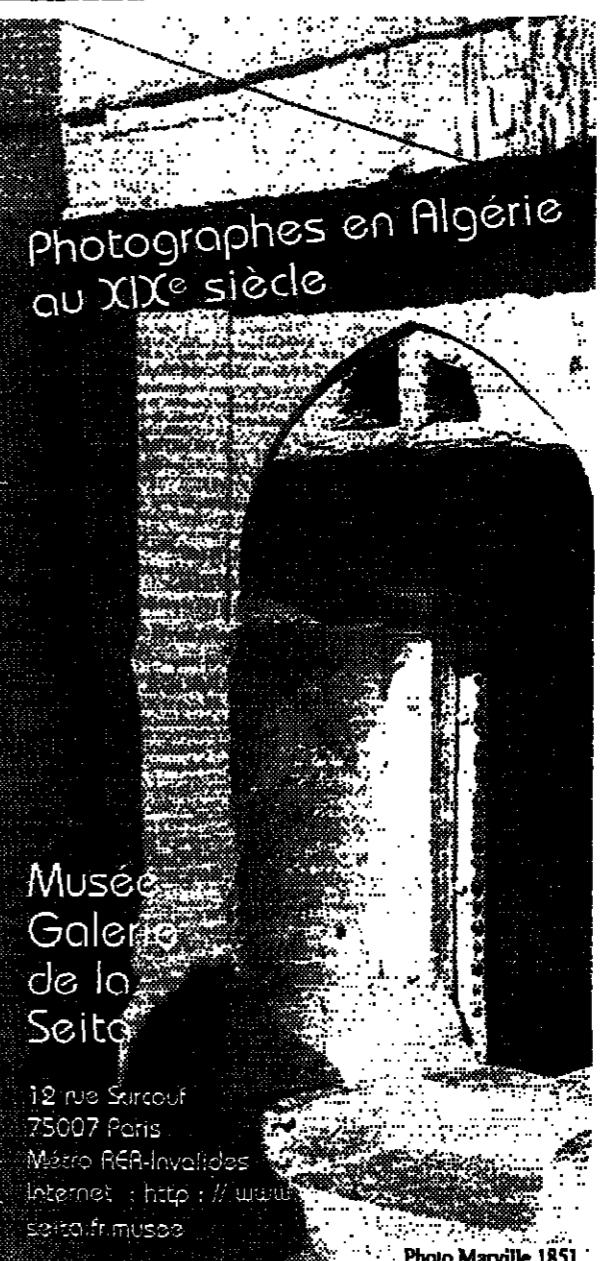
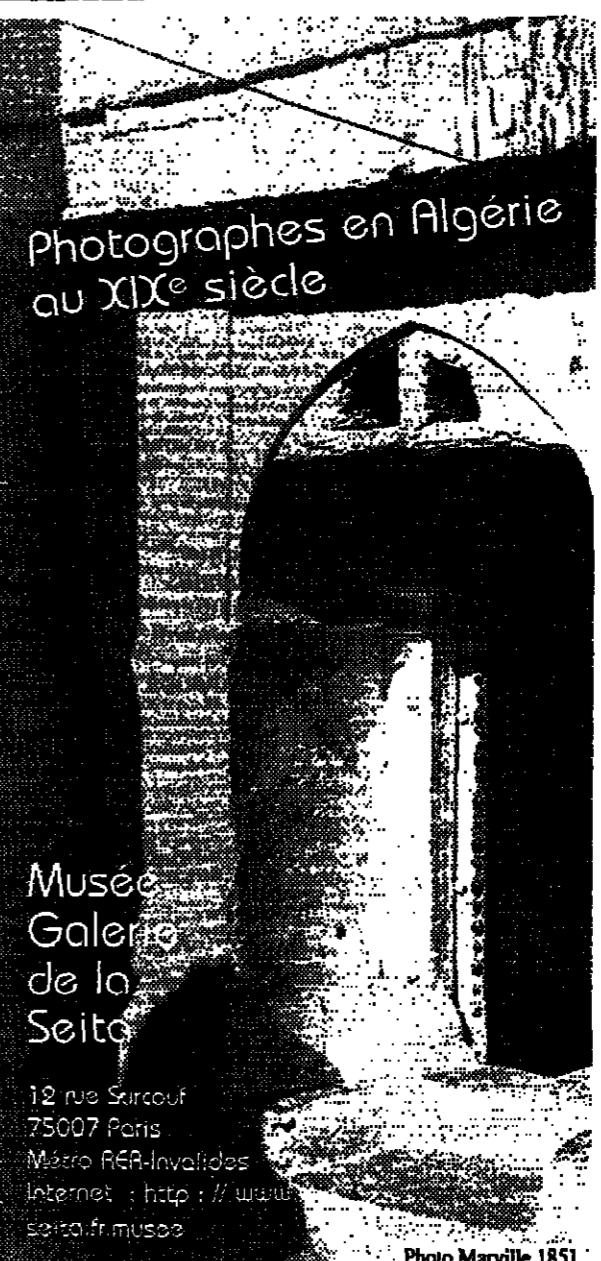
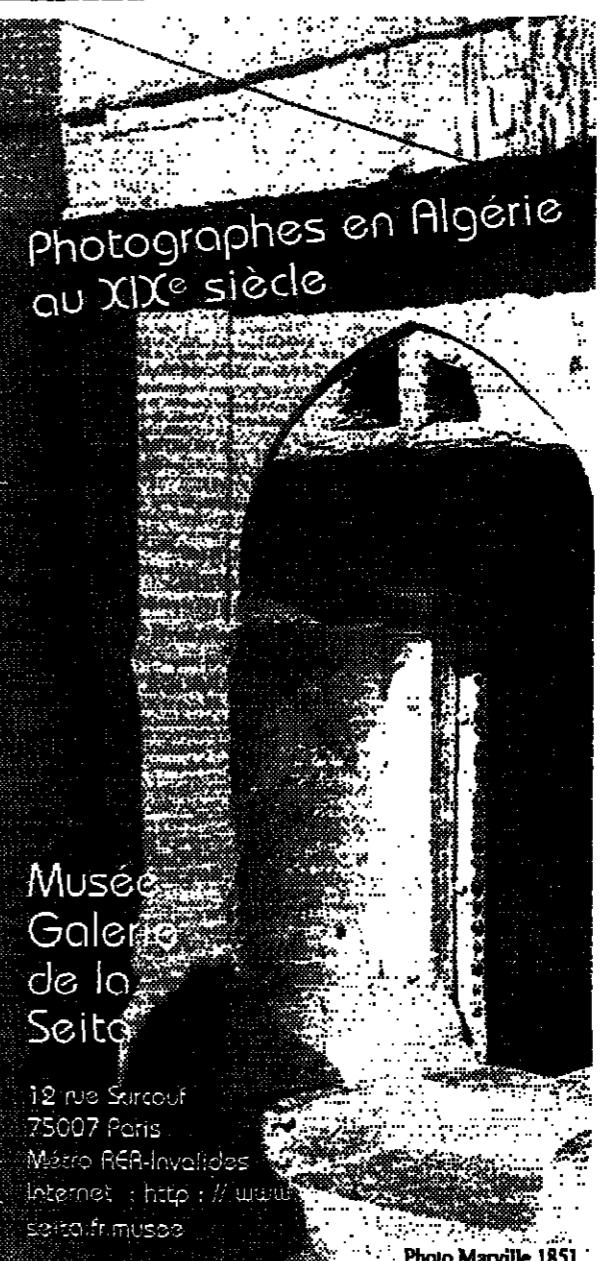
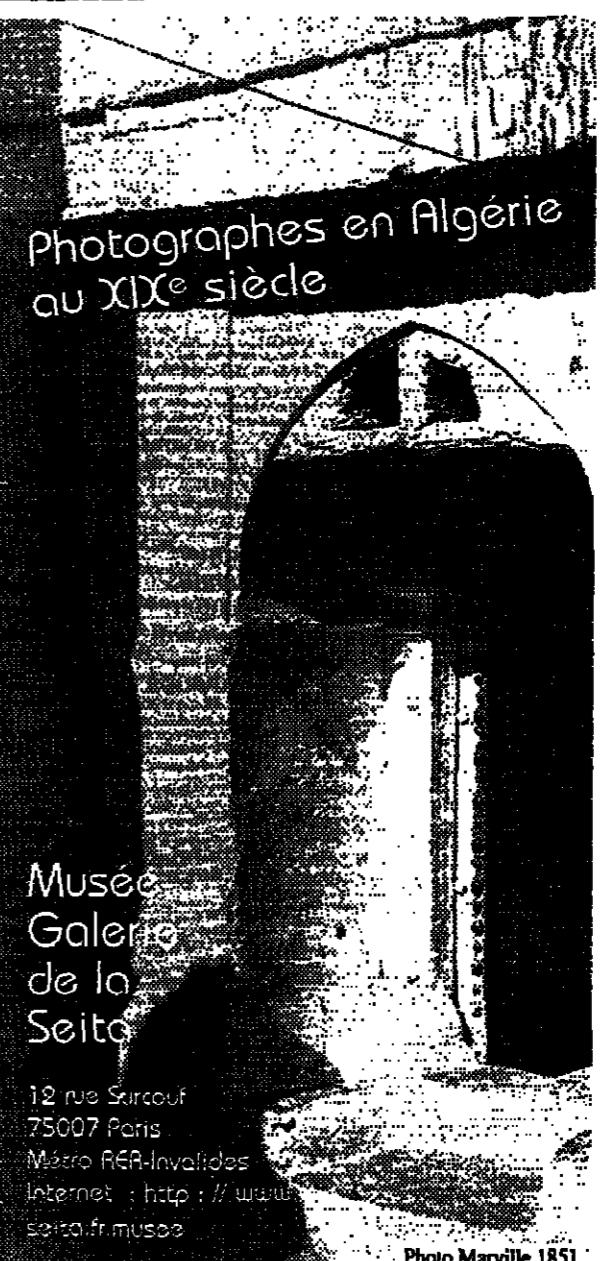
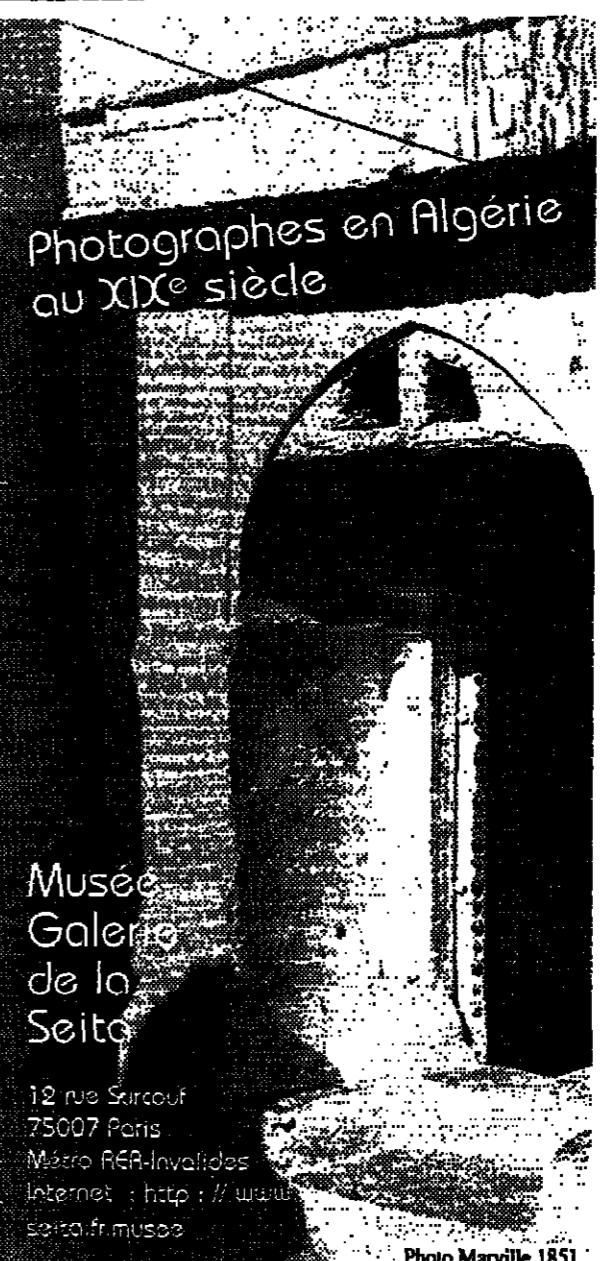
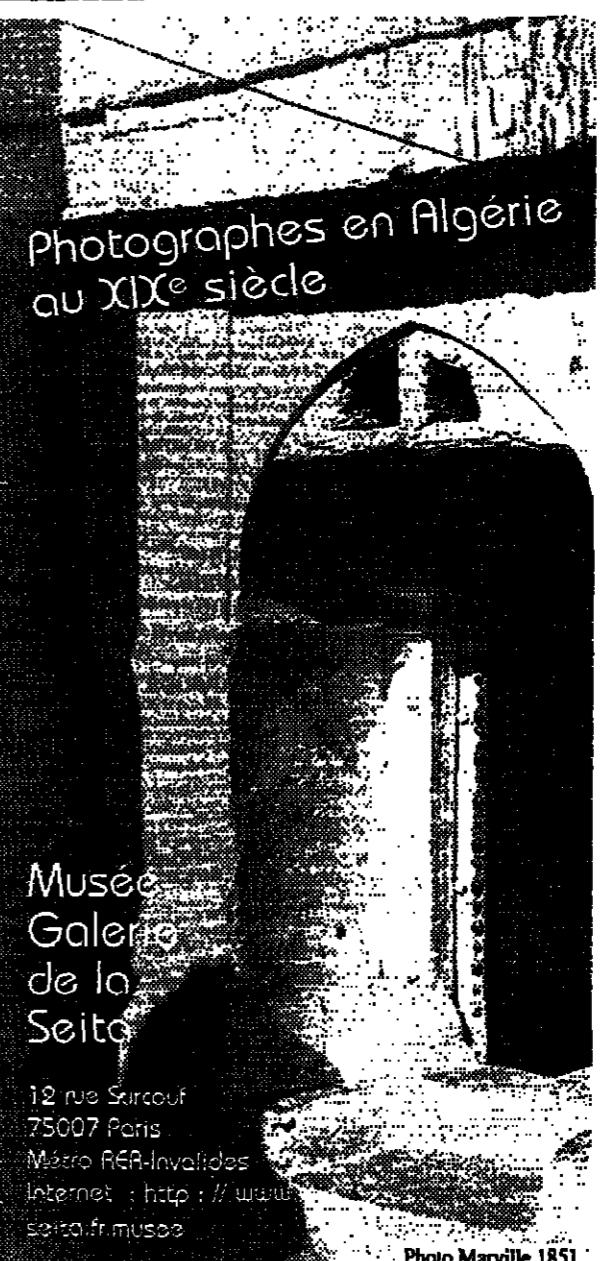
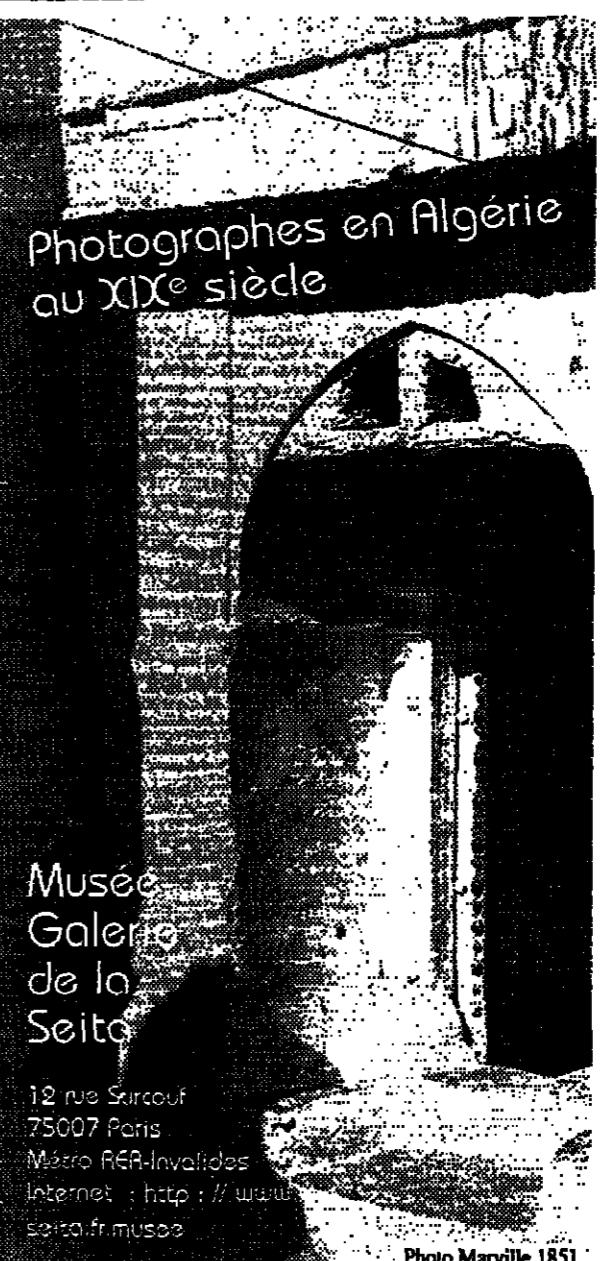
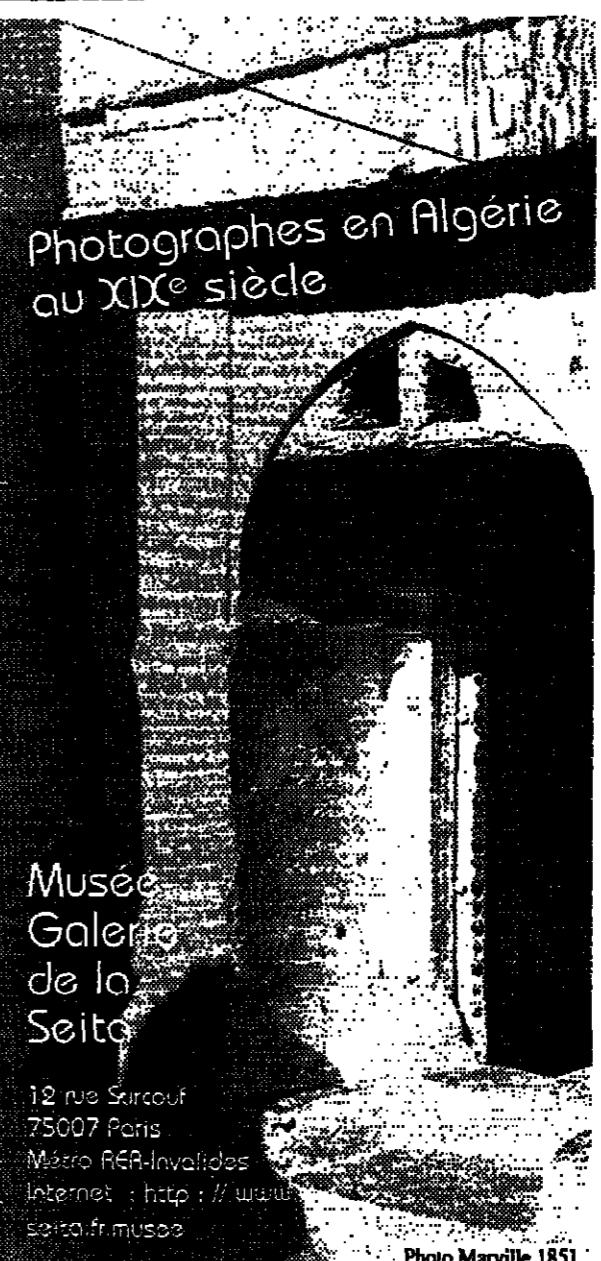
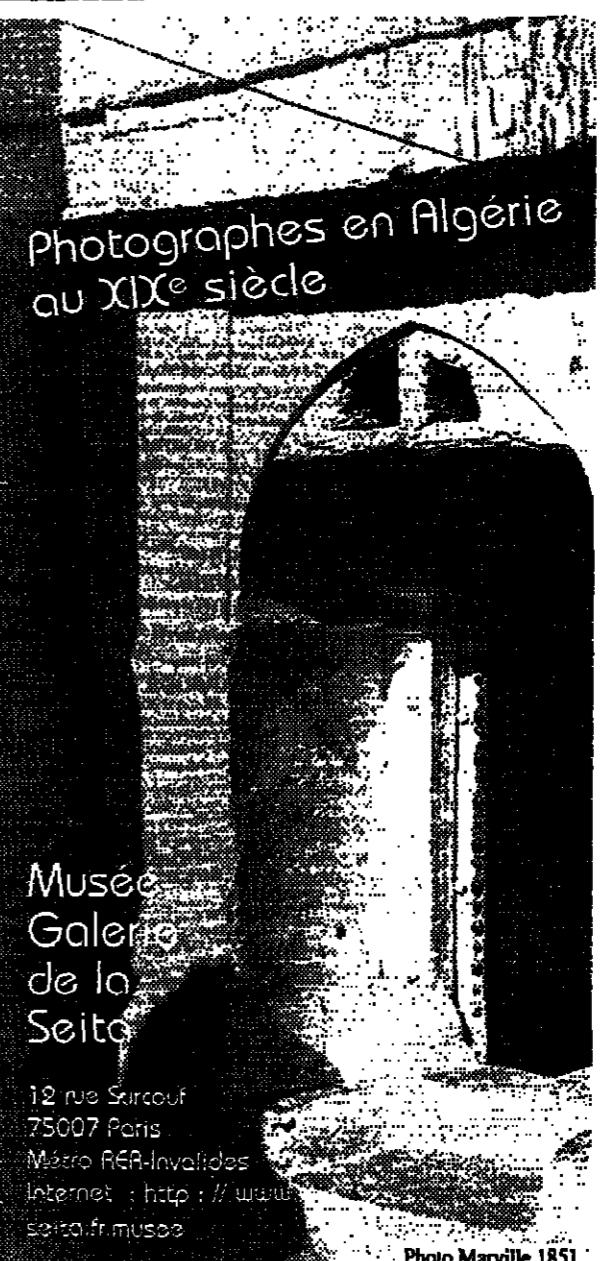
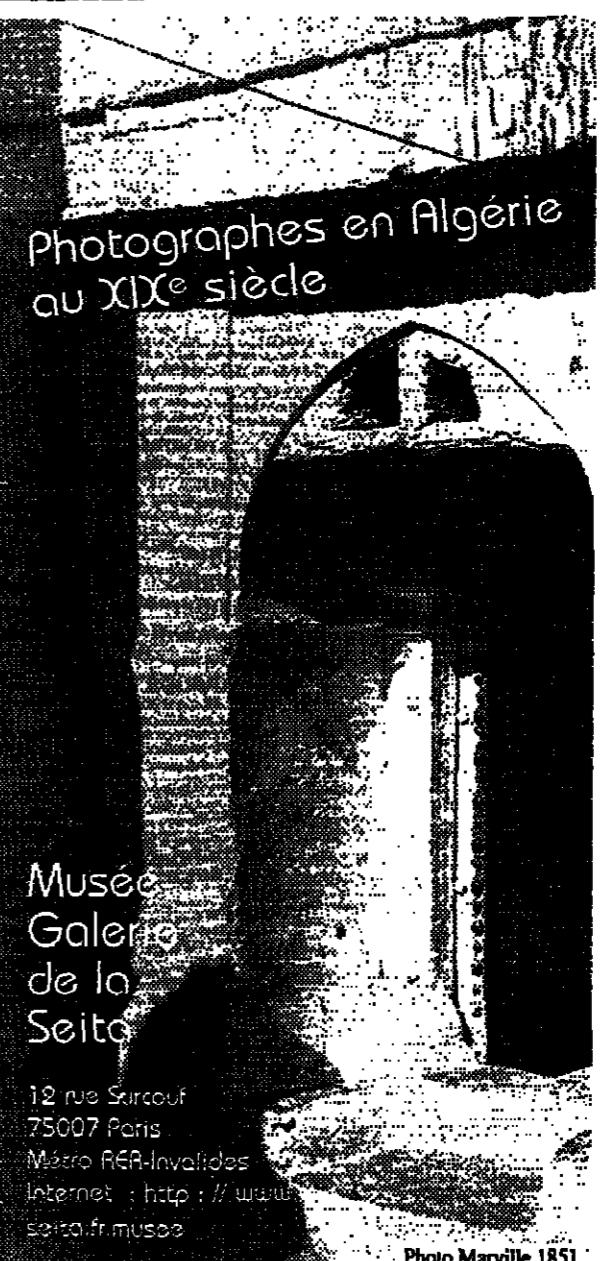
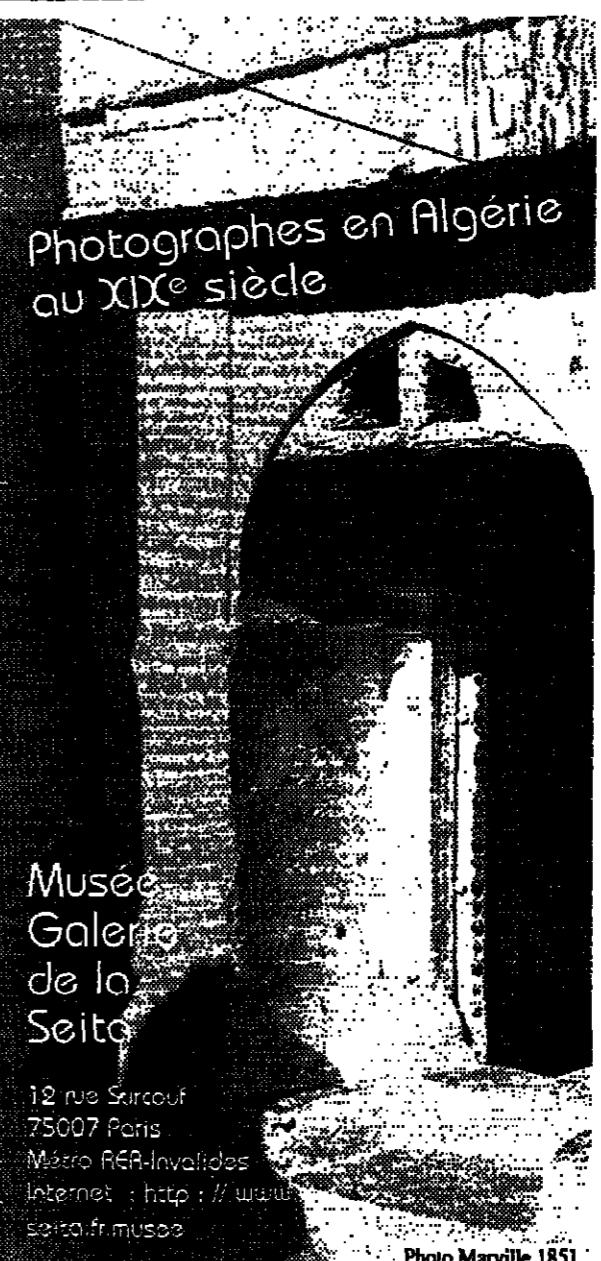
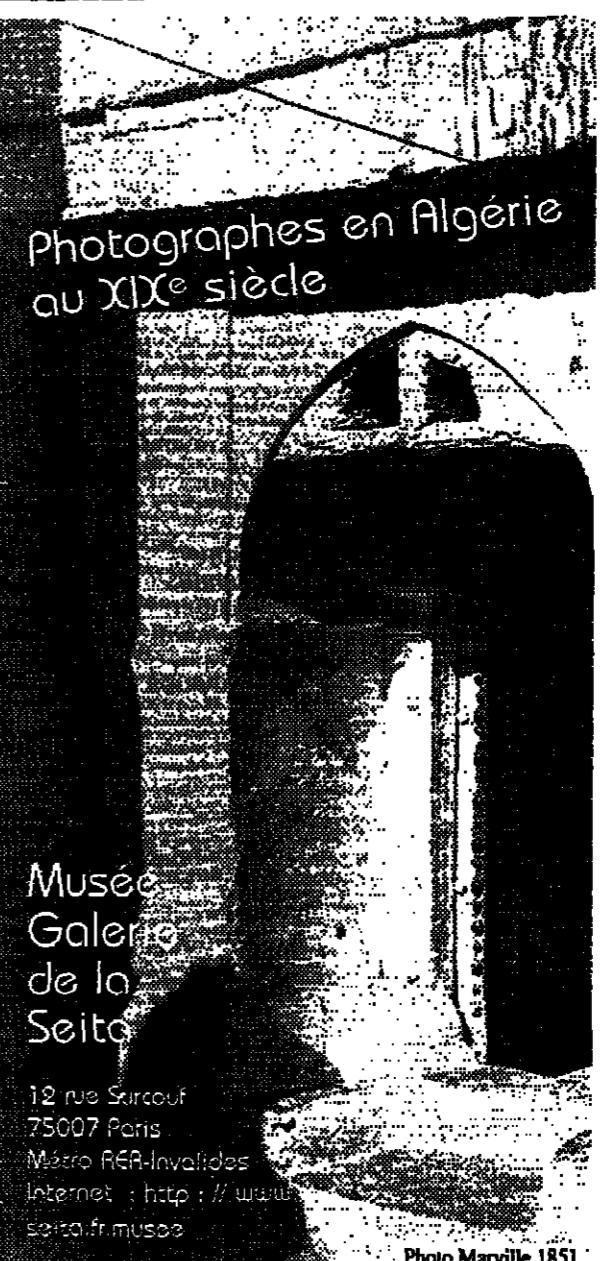
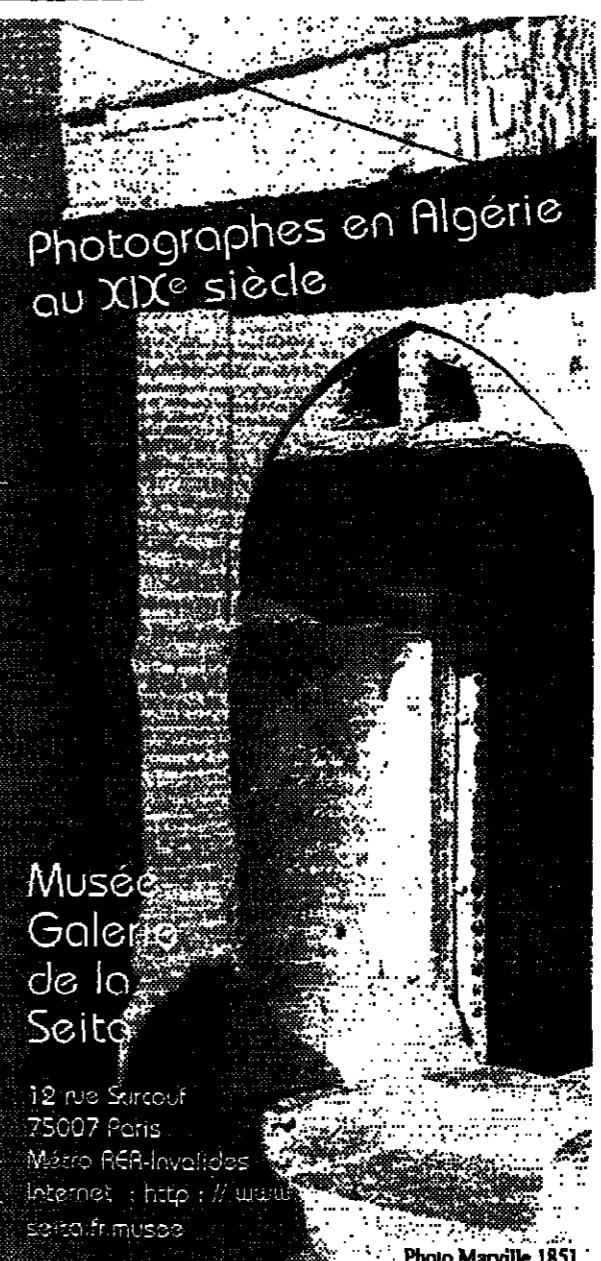
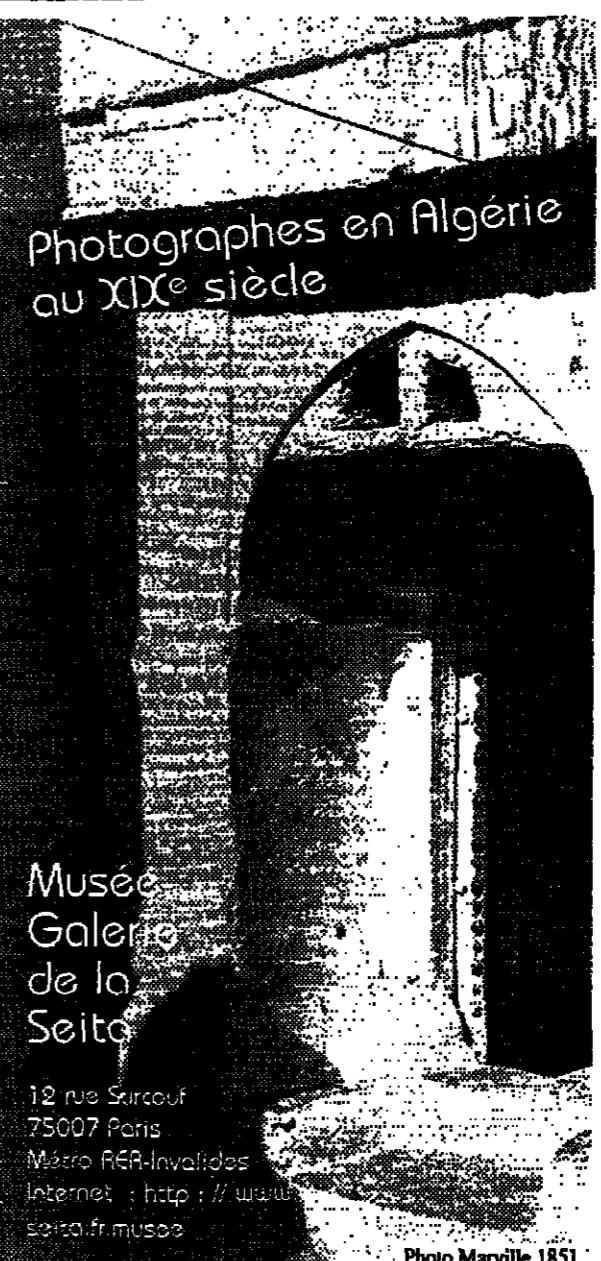
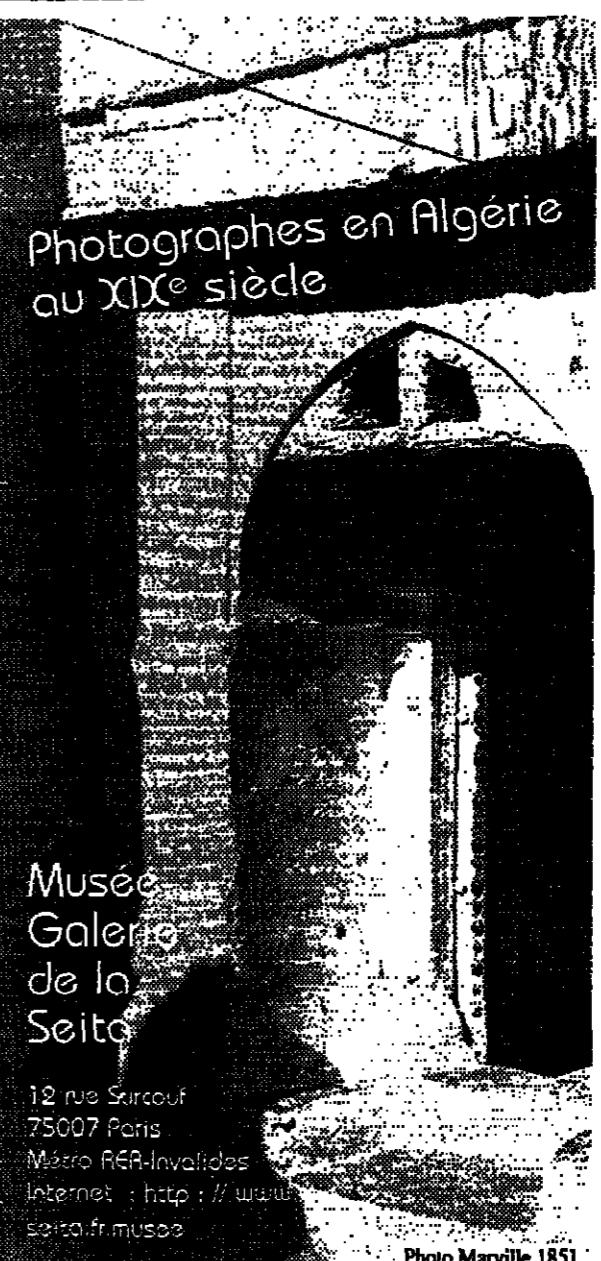
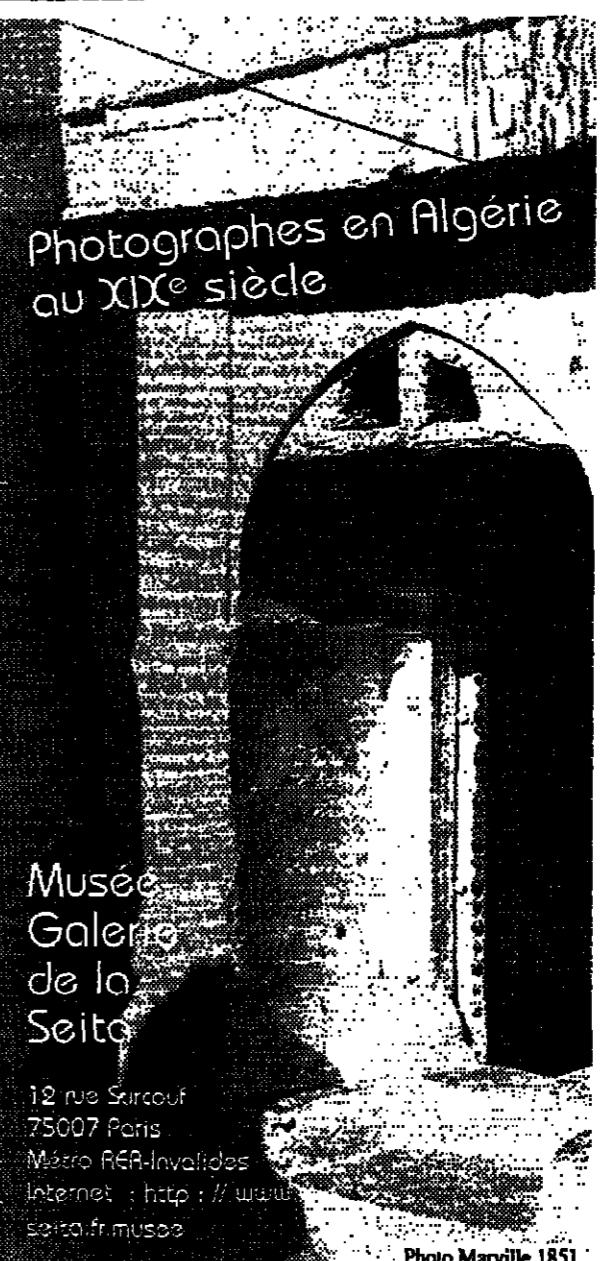
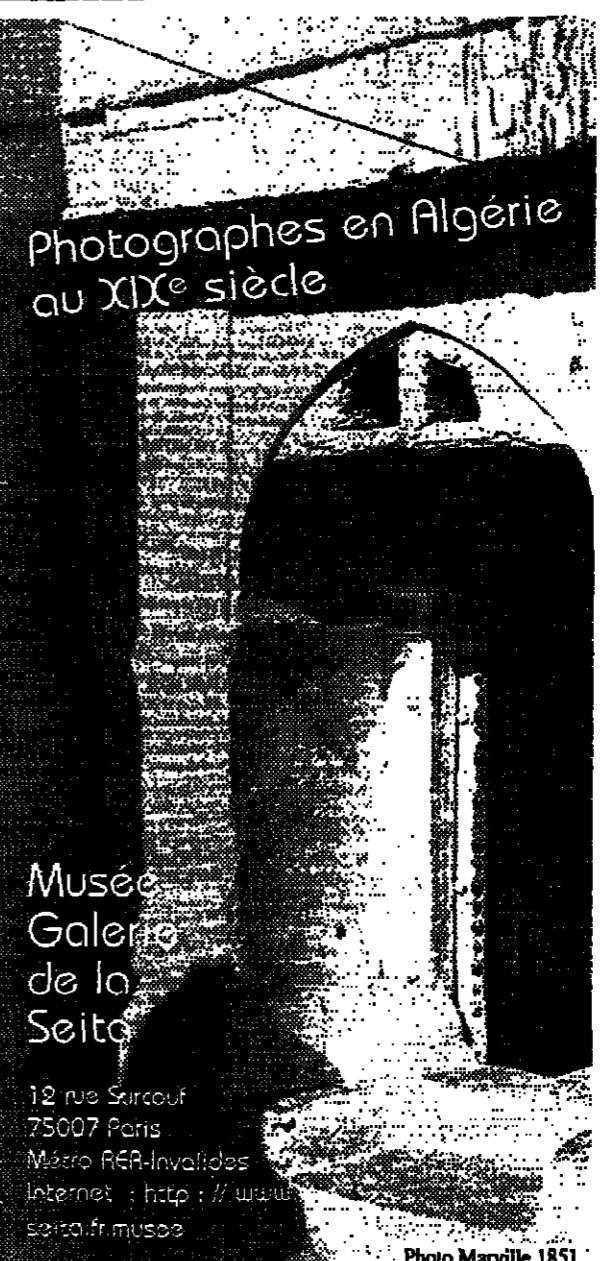
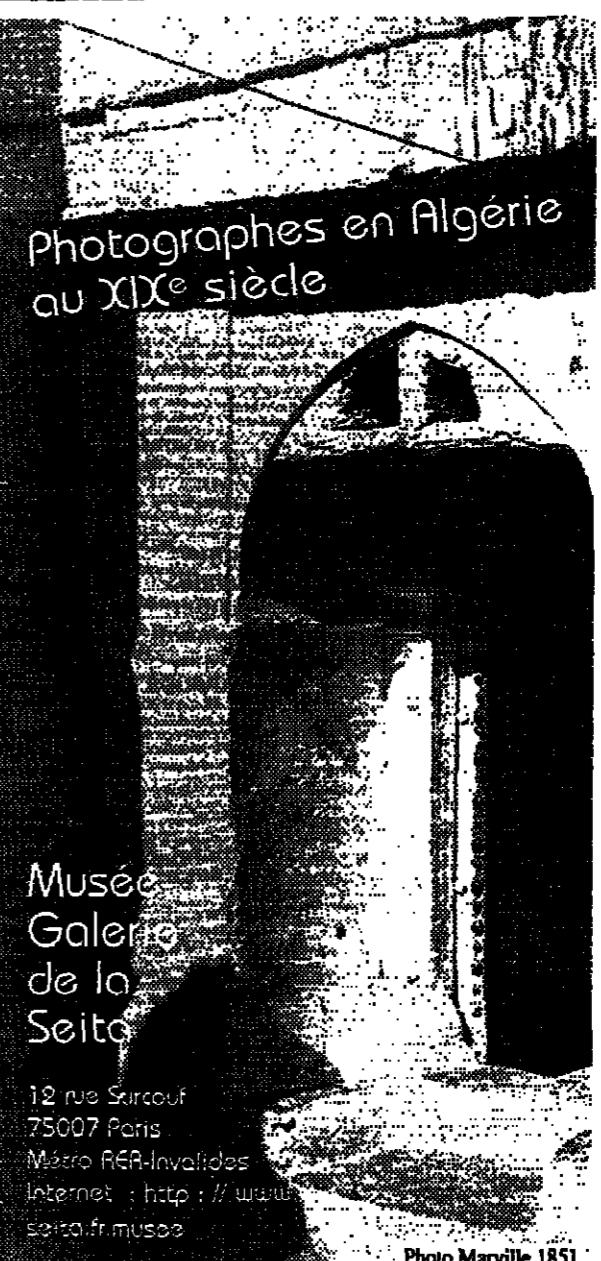
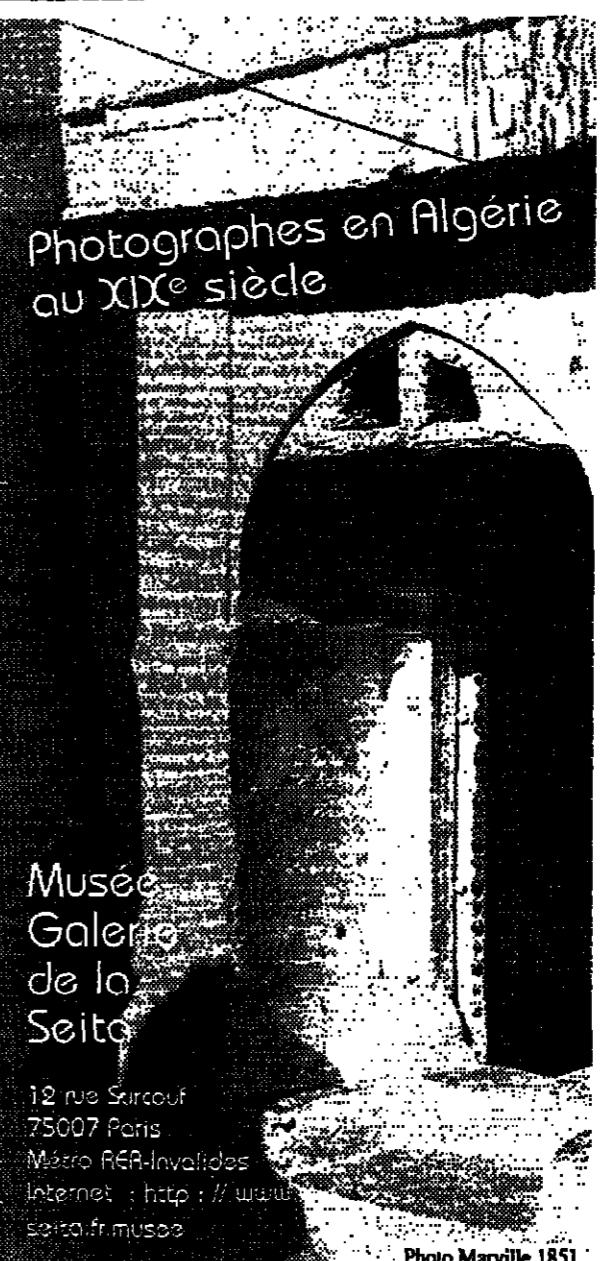
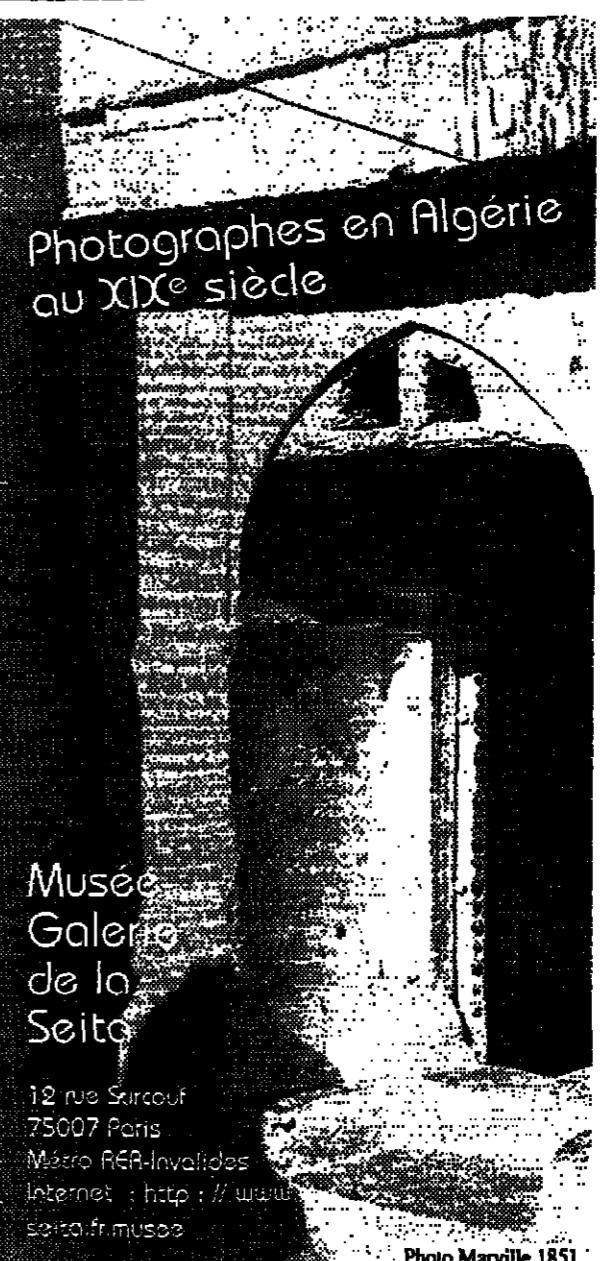
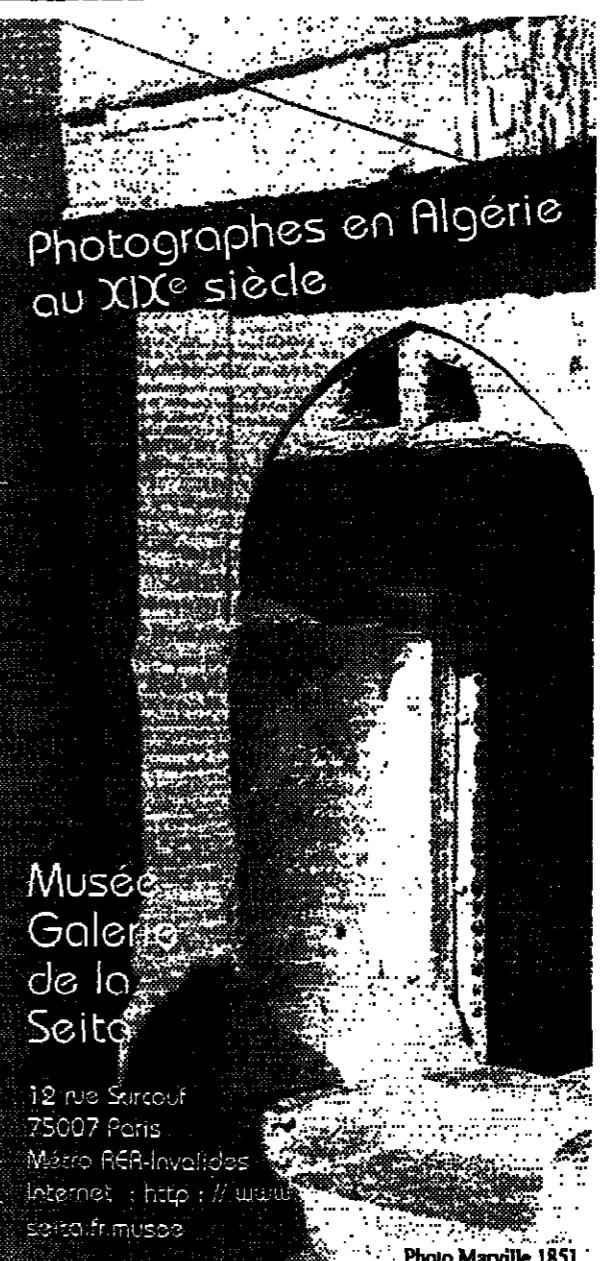
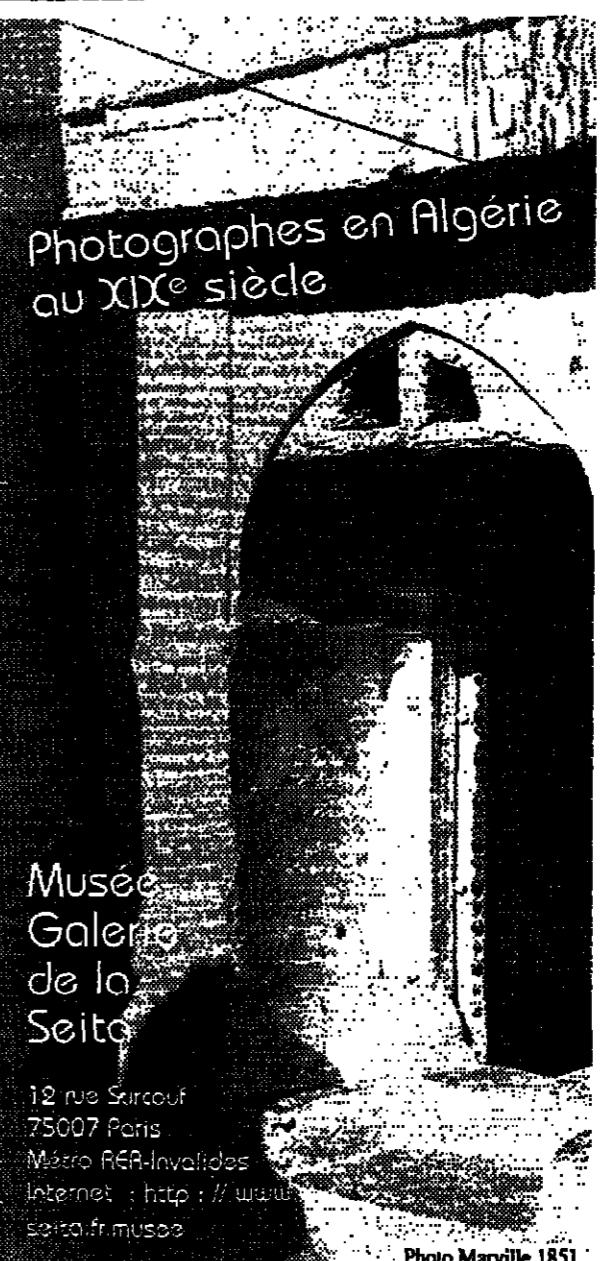
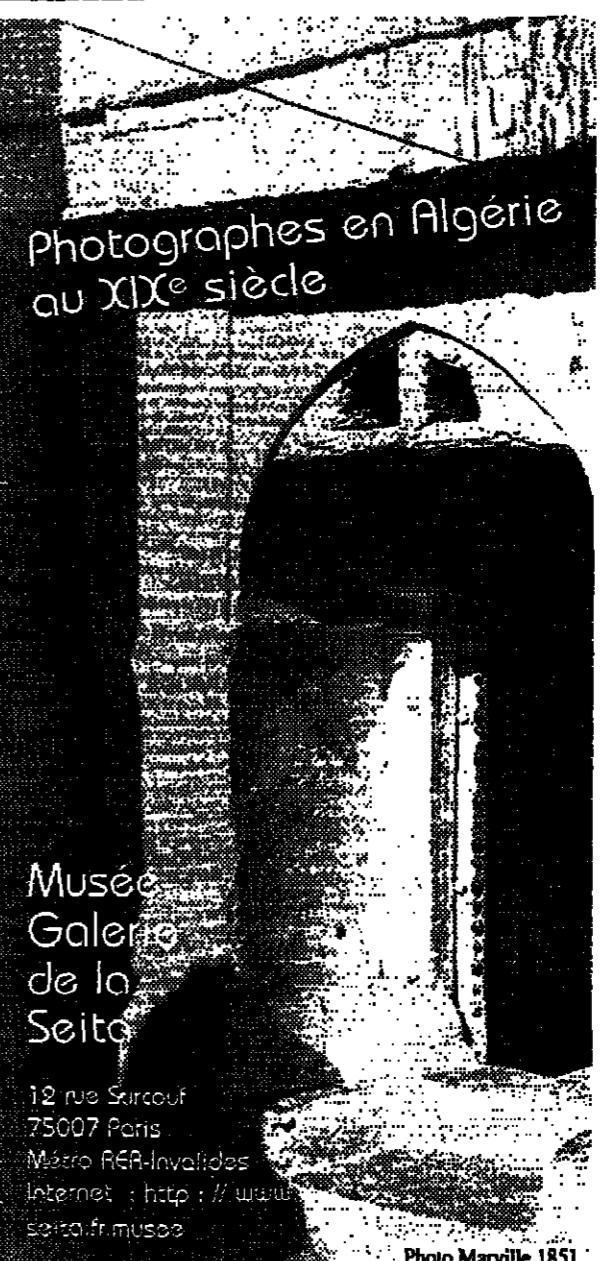
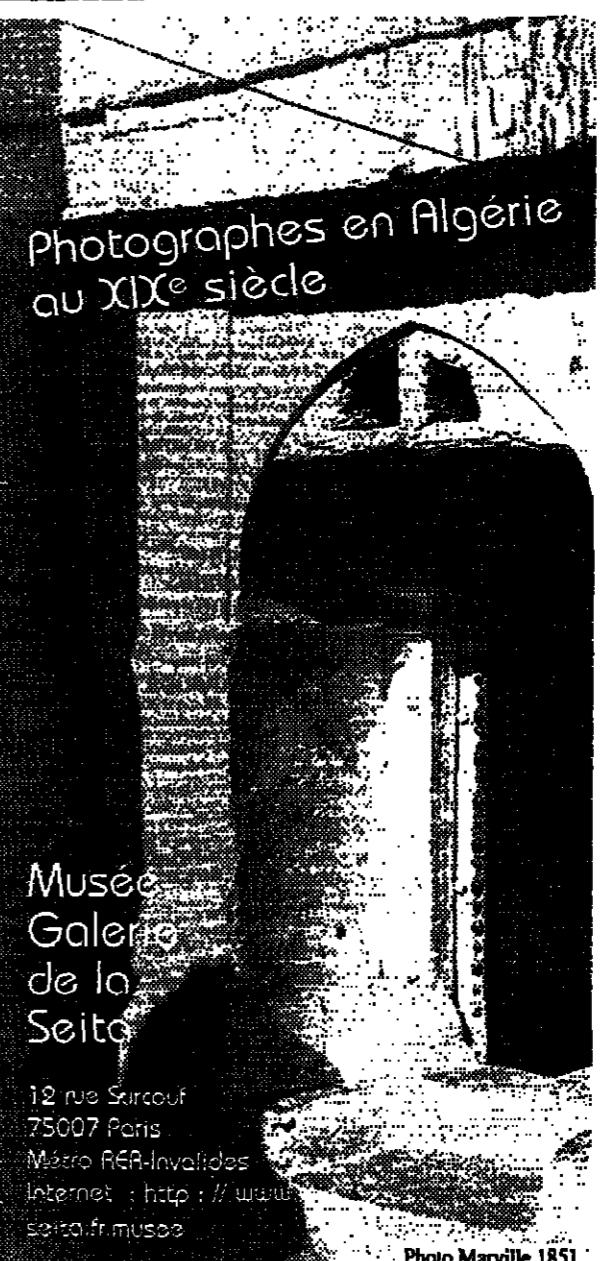
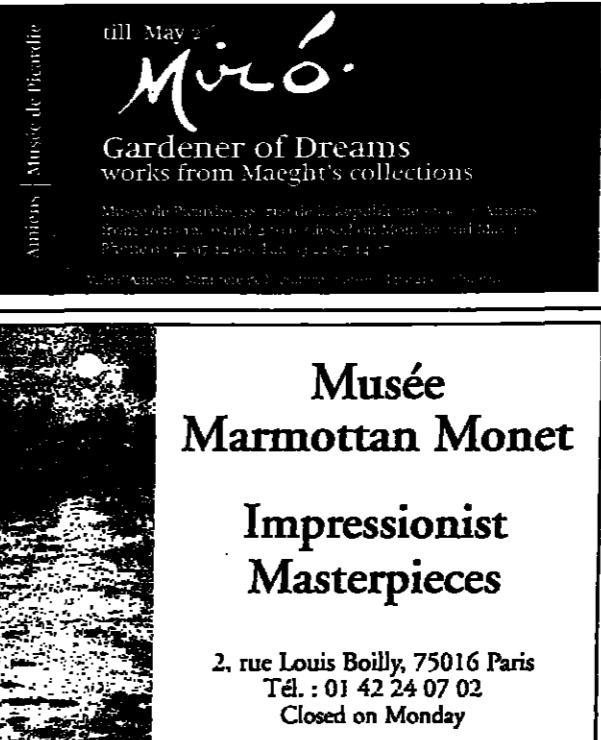


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Tenacity in Kosovo

As the setbacks mount in Kosovo, including the capture of three U.S. servicemen, it has become clear that this conflict will not produce another lightning military victory for the United States.

For a superpower lately grown accustomed to swift, decisive and relatively bloodless military ventures abroad, the war in Kosovo seems likely to require great patience and a high tolerance for uncertainty. That is especially true for President Bill Clinton and his advisers, who must resist the temptation to react to every battlefield reversal with an instant, improvised escalation of combat.

President Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia has proved to be a cunning and cruel opponent who has exploited the limitations of NATO's air assault by sending his troops on a rampage across Kosovo. U.S. and NATO commanders underestimated his endurance and savagery. But that is no reason to rush wildly into some new phase of warfare. The smarter course in an admittedly dismal situation is to give the strategy of targeted bombing time to grind on Mr. Milosevic's resolve and the patience of his people.

Steadiness is especially important because every new misfortune in Kosovo increases the pressure on Mr. Clinton to direct more firepower against Serbia. In addition to the wrenching images of thousands of frightened refugees streaming across the border to Albania, Macedonia and Montenegro, there is now the harrowing television picture of three U.S. soldiers with bloodied faces held captive by the Serbs. Whether the men stayed in Macedonia, they must be treated humanely by Mr. Milosevic. A military trial of the soldiers, threatened by Serbian authorities, would be repugnant.

But bombing military targets in downtown Belgrade, which has been approved by NATO and could commence at any time, will not help the three Americans or advance NATO's

interests. The Serbian capital is an old and densely populated city of two million people, many living and working near government buildings. Numerous civilians could be killed by the most accurate missile or bomb attack, rallying support for Mr. Milosevic within Serbia and generating sympathy for his cause in Europe.

Both public and congressional opinion in the United States need to be consulted about decisions so grave as bombing a European capital or sending ground troops into Kosovo. Neither step would immediately end the Serbian sweep across Kosovo. It would take days to prepare for a limited invasion of 30,000 troops aimed at establishing safe havens in Kosovo for ethnic Albanians. A month or more would be needed to assemble the tanks, helicopters and 200,000 soldiers required to evict Serbian forces altogether from Kosovo. Either strategy could produce large numbers of NATO casualties, and must be coordinated with a political plan for the future of Kosovo that Washington and its allies have not yet devised.

For now, the most appropriate military response to the Serbian assault is to locate and bomb Serbian forces in Kosovo, to disrupt their supply lines and communications networks and to hit command posts and other military targets outside Belgrade. Inadequate NATO planning and bad weather have restricted such attacks so far.

Augmented air strikes cannot prevent Serbian atrocities, but they can slow the Serbian advance and may eventually drive Mr. Milosevic to seek a political settlement.

In warfare, disappointment and frustration can produce impulsive, defective decisions. Mr. Clinton seemed to recognize the danger Thursday when he told a navy audience in Virginia that "we must be determined and patient." He and his aides should be guided by that view as they manage what promises to be a long and difficult conflict with Serbia.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Vulnerable Paraguay

The upheaval in Paraguay reads like a bad novel until you realize that it reflects a painfully real condition of democratic fragility found too often in South America and in other newly democratic places. But the upheaval also invites Paraguay, still recovering from 35 years of dictatorship by General Alfredo Stroessner, to strengthen the political system on which everything else rests.

It happened this way: Lino Cesar Oviedo, a general of the 55-year ruling Colorado Party, won the presidential primary last year. His opponents had him jailed for trying to overthrow a previous government, and he was forced to abandon his candidacy. In prolonged turmoil that culminated in sniper shootings, President Raul Cubas Gran was compelled to resign. The vice president, Luis Maria Argana, was assassinated; under suspicion in that affair, and as the resigned president's ostensible mentor, the same general was exiled.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Not So Blue Moon

So now it turns out that the "blue moon" that appeared Wednesday — supposedly the second blue moon of the year — really wasn't. In fact, the first blue moon of the year, spotted back in January, really wasn't, either.

What started out as one of those remarkable years in which two blue moons were to light the skies will actually end up as a year in which not a single blue moon emerges.

We know all this thanks to a timely confession by Sky & Telescope magazine, which made a careless error half a century ago that has reverberated ever after among astronomy buffs. The term "blue moon" to these people has come to mean the second full moon to appear in any calendar month. But when a Canadian folklorist tried to trace the origins of this meaning, he had a horrendous time. He tracked it back through a 1986 Trivial Pursuit question, which was based on a 1985 children's almanac, which may have gotten it from a 1980 radio broadcast, which was based on a 1946 article in Sky & Telescope, which cited the 1937 Maine Farmers' Almanac.

The only trouble was, Sky & Telescope now acknowledges, that the original almanac never said a blue moon was the second full moon in a

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Between Turks and Kurds, a History of Tension

By William Pfaff

PARIS — The cause of the Kurdish people is not one the Western powers want to hear about, when they have Kosovo on their minds. They might wish to say to the Kurds what Stalin said to another small nation, Finland. In 1938, when world war was looming and Russia wanted territorial concessions, Stalin said, "I am not responsible for geography."

The Kurdish people have the geographical misfortune to live at a point where Arab, Turkish and Persian (Iranian) civilizations intersect. But they are not numerous enough, or sufficiently united, to impose themselves and claim and defend a Kurdish state. Being where they are, they have little choice but to accommodate their neighbors.

But the governments of the states in which they live have not been very accommodating to them. The result has been a history of griefs.

Yet what is their alternative? This question is again on the table, since the Turkish government is putting on trial Abdullah Ocalan, the leader of the Kurdish Workers Party, or PKK. The PKK mobilizes that fraction of the Kurdish community which supports insurrection and terrorism to gain national autonomy for the Kurds.

Turkey offers the Kurds full citizenship — but as Turks — and many Kurds have accepted political assimilation.

They have been members of Parliament. There have been Kurdish prime ministers. But Turkey refuses to concede to the Kurds a separate status.

The Ottoman Turks ruled their huge empire with scores, if not hundreds, of distinct national, ethnic and religious communities. Its rule was often arbitrary and despotic, but it institutionalized tolerance. Careers were open to talent. The empire demanded submission and taxes, but not social conformity or religious conversion.

That tolerance was a crucial factor in the empire's destruction. Russia and the other European great powers began to take it apart, sponsoring rebellions and defections. Serbia, Greece, Egypt, Bosnia, Bulgaria, what is now Romania — all acquired independence or semi-independence with foreign help. The Arabs were liberated by Turkey's defeat in World War I.

The most important and dynamic new nation that came out of the collapse of the Ottoman Empire was modern Turkey itself. Its charismatic leader, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, and his associates learned the lesson from the Ottoman collapse that tolerance and diversity can be exploited by national enemies to undermine the unity and

power of the nation. They created a secular state of many nationalities, but only one, undifferentiated citizenship.

They modeled their state on Prussian-led Germany, which had been a Muslim power, ruled southeastern Europe from the 14th to 20th centuries, longer than there has been a Germany.)

As Semih Vaner of the Center for International Studies and Research in Paris recently wrote, despite its failures and uncertain human rights performance, the Turkish Republic's 75 years have been a widely underestimated accomplishment. "An undeniably democratic space has been created, in a part of the world where democracy has not otherwise prospered."

"Including the final years of Ottoman constitutional monarchy, there has been more than a century of democratic experience, despite interruptions by an army which resists subordination to civil power but nonetheless is not an army of military coups and pronouncements. Regular elections have taken place since 1946. The party system works and is generally free." The record is not a negligible one.

The tension between Turks and Kurds is one of those terrible problems that history poses without providing a solution — other than tolerance, which generally is in short supply.

International Herald Tribune.

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Can NATO Snatch Victory From the Jaws of Defeat?

By François Heisbourg

PARIS — Fifty years after its creation on April 4, 1949, the Atlantic alliance finds itself staring defeat in the face. For that is the situation, 10 days after the beginning of Operation Allied Force.

President Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia has given no sign that he is ready to initial the Rambouillet agreement, which is the specific yardstick of political success set forth by President Jacques Chirac of France and Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain.

Of the three broad aims of the bombing campaign as laid out by President Bill Clinton — weakening Serbia's military capabilities, improving the humanitarian situation and demonstrating the alliance's credibility — only the first is being achieved to some extent. But what is the relevance of destroyed MiGs, SAMs and armament factories to Mr. Milosevic's goon squads? Nor should it be too difficult for Serbia to replenish its weaponry from dime-a-dozen arms suppliers in the former Soviet empire once the war is over.

"Ethnic cleansing" was not caused by the bombing, as that process was occurring even during the Rambouillet talks. However, with no foreign eyes left to bear witness, its scope has vastly increased. A "final solution" of sorts is now in progress in Kosovo, which is even since General Stroessner was ousted in 1989 — has been poorly, corruptly and criminally governed. It is in dire need of a system of modern governance and of the lifting of the weight of an unfairly privileged ruling class.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

entails comes the prospect of chain-reaction instability in the Balkans.

Macedonia, Montenegro and Albania can hardly survive as organized societies in view of the immense material and political burden thrust upon their already frayed social fabric.

Never in its history has NATO's credibility been so severely tested. The negative impact of that reality far outweighs the satisfaction its members can derive from the generally smooth cooperation that has characterized the conduct of Operation Allied Force.

Given the pace of Mr. Milosevic's ethnic cleansing, there are no more than a few weeks left in which NATO can snatch victory from the jaws of defeat — and only a few days left in which to make the corresponding policy decisions.

One option consists of sending ground forces into Kosovo. The prospects here have not been encouraging, since NATO considers that up to 200,000 soldiers would be needed to mount a full-scale assault. That number may be an overestimate. Indeed, General George Joulwan, General Wesley Clark's predecessor as NATO's military commander in Europe, suggests that much smaller numbers could at least begin to do the job, provided they are given massive air support from helicopter gunships and combat aircraft.

Still, such a high-risk operation would

take time to organize: In the best of cases, it will take more than a few days for political consensus to emerge in favor of such an option, and another few weeks to bring force to bear in the field. Having achieved his goal in Kosovo, Mr. Milosevic may be ready for a cease-fire before a ground operation gets moving.

One thing is clear in these circumstances: Only the United States has the wherewithal to orchestrate a large-scale ground operation rapidly against the 40,000 Serbian soldiers based in and around Kosovo. Given the time pressure, only the United States has the means to lead, even if the Europeans would provide the bulk of the ground forces. Encouragingly, opinion polls in Britain and France demonstrate clear support for such an operation.

The other option, promoted by a number of analysts in the United States and in France, is to confront Mr. Milosevic with the recognition of Kosovo's independence, immediately followed by arms transfers and other material assistance. This could be done within a period of days through Albania's border with Kosovo.

In other times, such a choice would have been considered by many as exceedingly destabilizing, with an independent and well-armed Kosovo prompting the disintegration of a Macedonia that has trouble enough coping with its ethnically diverse population (three-quarters Slavic, one-quarter Albanian). That argument now pales into insignificance, however, given the destabilizing effect of the exodus prompted by ethnic cleansing in Kosovo.

Others have argued that recognition of Kosovo would set a precedent by creating a new boundary in Europe, thus setting a disastrous precedent elsewhere, notably for the Chechen secessionists in Russia or the Kurds in Turkey.

But Kosovo's independence will only set a precedent if the West continues to insist, wrongly, that it would set one. Kosovo's right to independence can be justified on the basis that Mr. Milosevic's so-called Federation of Yugoslavia is not, except in name, the legitimate successor state to Tito's Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Conversely, no one questions Russia's status as a legal heir to the Soviet Union, nor that of Turkey as a legitimate member of the international community. The scale of the current disaster is sufficient to justify a change of policy and of rhetoric.

Whatever is done — and the two options reviewed here are not mutually exclusive — it had better be done fast, for the sake of millions of lives at stake in the Balkans. In addition to the moral and strategic arguments, leaders should bear in mind that defeat will surely spoil the 50th anniversary party for NATO that Mr. Clinton will be hosting on April 23.

The writer is chairman of the Geneva Center for Security Policy. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

Only Ground Forces Can Prevent Further Genocide in Kosovo

By Robert Dallek and Stephen Solarz

BOSTON — Whatever damage the air campaign has done to the Serbian military, it has failed to stop President Slobodan Milosevic's marauding militias from a genocidal assault against a largely defenseless Kosovar population. Stopping the systematic slaughter of innocent civilians under way in Kosovo — while it is still possible to save a substantial number of lives — will require the introduction of NATO ground forces.

If any one lesson emerges from the military history of the

20th century, it is that airpower alone has never been sufficient to achieve the political objectives for which it has been used.

The objective in Kosovo must be to stop the systematic killing and "ethnic cleansing," not simply to "diminish" the capacity of the Serbs to achieve a kind of "final solution" to the Kosovo question. A Kosovo without Kosovars is not likely to be seen as a success for NATO, even if the Serbian military has been "degraded" in the process.

to prevent ethnic cleansing at an acceptable cost in blood and treasure, and when other countries are prepared to join us, we should be willing to do so.

Through the combination of a continuing air campaign and the massive firepower that NATO is capable of bringing to bear on the ground, we should be able to drive all organized Serbian forces out of Kosovo in relatively short order and with modest allied casualties.

In other times, such a choice would have been considered by many as exceedingly destabilizing, with an independent and well-armed Kosovo prompting the disintegration of a Macedonia that has trouble enough coping with its ethnically diverse population (three-quarters Slavic, one-quarter Albanian). That argument now pales into insignificance, however, given the destabilizing effect of the exodus prompted by ethnic cleansing in Kosovo.

We should have no illusions: Putting a NATO army in to fight the Serbs will cost allied and American lives. But it is a war the alliance can win by driving Serbian forces out of Kosovo and then building a Kosovar army that, backed up by NATO airpower, will be able to defend itself from any renewed Serbian aggression. The final political status of Kosovo — whether it be autonomy or independence — can be determined after the Serbian forces have been driven from the field. The challenge now is to prevent genocide.

Some have suggested as an alternative to NATO ground forces that we arm the Kosovars themselves and let them do the fighting. If we had time to implement such a policy, it would make sense. But with Serbian forces already on the rampage, this would be too late to avert the massive killing and dislocations that the air campaign was supposed to prevent.

The task before us now is to let go of the proposition that ground troops, as in Vietnam, are almost always a bad idea. Sometimes important strategic

missions are best carried out by airpower.

Nowhere is this shift more dramatic than in Germany. Gerhard Schröder, a radical leftist in his youth, is now chancellor, and Joschka Fischer, the former peace advocate and street fighter, serves as foreign minister. Rudolf Schäping, the Social Democratic defense minister, was once suspended from his party for overzealous agitation against the armed forces.

It seems these men have discovered that when you are in power and there is a fire next door, pacifism becomes a perilous luxury. There is nobody else to take care of business. President Slobodan Milosevic should listen closely to the sounds of silence and not count on discord in the ranks of NATO. At least not soon.

So what makes this fight so different from all other fights?

To begin with, this is a battle not even pacifists can resist: a war of conscience, not of interest. The attack on Yugoslavia is aimed at saving lives, and for purely moral reasons.

This makes all the difference to the postmodern liberal mind, which reflexively recoils from force when it is employed for

strategic purposes — say, oil, economic advantage or the balance of power. Europeans (of all stripes) like such force even less when applied by the United States, the "last remaining superpower."

When the U.S. Air Force

hung white sheets from their windows. That was in 1991 when the United States started lobbing cruise missiles into Baghdad. But was not Iraqis who were waving the traditional flag of surrender — it was peace-minded Germans. Never mind that they were not the targets. They wanted to demonstrate their moral superiority in the face of American "cowboy imperialism."

These last few days, we have seen such displays of righteously in Europe. Indeed, as the pounding of Yugoslavia enters its second week, the most intriguing news from Europe is that the dogs of peace have not been barking in the night.

To be sure, there have been protests — in Vienna and in Bucharest, in Stockholm and The Hague. Even in Melbourne, demonstrators burned the American flag. But these were not the usual suspects — Greens, pacifists, assorted anti-Americans — but Serbian nationalists or, as in Bucharest, Orthodox priests inveighing against Muslim infidels.

There is also, however, an element of realpolitik in this rare instance of trans-Atlantic harmony. When pacifist-nationalist Europeans turned out by the hundreds of thousands to protest the deployment of American nuclear missiles in the early 1980s, they were driven in large part by the fear that their countries would become a "shooting gallery of the superpowers." Even in 1991, visions of a wider war struck angst into the hearts of those who hung out the white sheets.

But now the Soviet Union is no more, and even the faint of heart do not believe that Rus-

ia and humanitarian objectives require them. Such is the case in Kosovo. To be sure, public opinion is not yet prepared to support the introduction of ground forces into a "nonpermissive" environment. But one of the tests of effective presidential leadership is to convert instinctive opposition into informed support for a worthy national objective.

We should have no illusions: Putting a NATO army in to fight the Serbs will cost allied and American lives. But it is a war the alliance can win by driving Serbian forces out of Kosovo and then building a Kosovar army that, backed up by NATO airpower, will be able to defend itself from any renewed Serbian aggression. The final political status of Kosovo — whether it be autonomy or independence — can be determined after the Serbian forces have been driven from the field. The challenge now is to prevent genocide.

Mr. Dallek is a professor of history at Boston University. Mr. Solarz, a former member of Congress, is vice chairman of the International Crisis Group. They contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1899: 100th Birthday

NEW YORK — Mrs. Nancy A.

Griffin, who says she was born near Ditto's Landing, in Alabama, one hundred years ago, celebrated the anniversary in N.J. She says she was born a slave and her back bears witness that she has stood under the lash.

Mrs. Griffin had eighteen children, all of whom are long since dead.

The Executive With the Reverse Midas Touch

A New Failure At J. Peterman

By Leslie Kaufman
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — As 1997 began, J. Peterman, the American catalogue retailer known for its quirky merchandise, seemed poised for big things.

For starters, in an astonishing public-relations windfall, the popular television comedy "Seinfeld" was featuring even more episodes in which the character Elaine worked for the company. Peterman had also just won the rights to sell reproductions of the clothes and jewelry worn in the movie "Titanic," soon to be a monster hit.

To bring it all together, the company hired a new president and chief operating officer who seemed to be the perfect complement to the creative but not especially business-minded co-founder, John Peterman.

When the effusive new executive, Arnold Cohen, arrived, he spoke of a golden future, predicting that sales would rise 50 percent by the following year.

But Mr. Cohen, who headed the charge to expand beyond catalogues into stores, was not quite able to deliver.

In January, J. Peterman declared bankruptcy and early last month its few remaining assets, mainly its name and the lease on an enormous store in Grand Central Terminal, were sold to Paul Harris Stores Inc. for \$10 million. The company lists \$14 million in debt in its last court filing, but that is unlikely ever to be collected.

It was not the first of Mr. Cohen's ventures to run into trouble in recent years.

In less than a decade, he has played a leading role at three well-known clothing firms — London Fog, Today's Man and J. Peterman — at each has descended into serious financial trouble or gone bankrupt. As J. Peterman's co-founder, Don Staley, sees it, Mr. Cohen is nothing less than "a serial killer of



J. Peterman, seated at left, and Arnold Cohen in happier days. Mr. Cohen's detractors say he has run clothing companies into the ground. He says the companies were in very bad straits to begin with.

companies." Retailing is a tough business, and Mr. Cohen can certainly not be blamed for all these companies' ills. In fact, from his perspective, he is mostly guilty of signing on to run companies that were in much worse condition than he first thought.

Acknowledging recently to look back at his career, Mr. Cohen said, "I wish in hindsight that I hadn't selected some of the companies I did."

Still, his story may offer a cautionary tale in an era enamored of executive visionaries. Mr. Cohen is a charismatic salesman who works at a frantic pace — traits that have repeatedly made him attractive to companies looking for management talent.

And his reputation has stayed with him, even as he has moved from disaster to disaster. As late as last year, a

colleague said, he bragged that he was one of the two greatest merchandisers in the country. Mr. Cohen does not deny making the remark. "It is one of my great strengths," he said.

After leaving his trade at Gucci America and Bloomingdale's, Mr. Cohen, 42, came to prominence in the late 1980s as president of J. Crew Group Inc. In his five years at the company, he helped to refine its trademark all-American style and more than doubled its sales. These achievements quickly established him as a first-rate executive — a rare commodity in an industry notoriously short of talent at the top.

And his reputation has stayed with him, even as he has moved from disaster to disaster. As late as last year, a

Mr. Cohen was not available for comment, but a former associate says

See COHEN, Page 10

U.S. Unemployment Falls to 29-Year Low

But March Job Growth Slowed Unexpectedly

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — The U.S. unemployment rate dropped to its lowest level in nearly three decades in March, but the roaring economy showed signs of slowing as payrolls grew at an anemic pace, the Labor Department said Friday.

The jobless rate slid to 4.2 percent from 4.4 percent in February. The March rate was the lowest since a matching 4.2 percent rate in February 1970. But only 46,000 new jobs were created last month, the weakest showing since a blizzard in January 1996 caused payrolls to drop by 48,000.

The jobless rate slid to 4.2 percent from 4.4 percent in February. The March rate was the lowest since a matching 4.2 percent rate in February 1970. But only 46,000 new jobs were created last month, the weakest showing since a blizzard in January 1996 caused payrolls to drop by 48,000.

The report on job creation in March is crucial because each sign of robust economic growth revives fears of inflation and the possibility of higher interest rates in the financial markets.

If interest rates were to jump significantly, by perhaps a percentage point, "it would be a disaster, the worst thing that could happen," said Robert Froehlich, vice chairman and stock strategist at Kemper Funds in Chicago.

"You could see the stock market easily give back 15 to 20 percent of its value."

He remains optimistic, however, that rates will remain largely in check.

Man Charged With Creating E-Mail Virus

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TRENTON, New Jersey — A 30-year-old man has been arrested and charged with originating the e-mail virus known as Melissa, the state attorney general's office announced Friday.

David Smith of Aberdeen Township, New Jersey, was arrested Thursday night at his brother's house in nearby Eatontown, said Rita Malley, a spokeswoman for Attorney General Peter Verniero.

Ms. Malley said that Mr. Smith had originated the virus, which caused worldwide e-mail disruption earlier this week, from his apartment in Aberdeen.

He was charged with interruption of public communication, damage to computer systems and other counts, Paul Loniquest of the attorney general's office said. Mr. Smith was released on \$100,000 bail. He could face as many as 40 years in prison and fines of as much as \$480,000 dollars, New Jersey officials said.

The Melissa virus appeared last Friday and spread rapidly around the world on Monday like a malicious chain letter, causing computers to fire off dozens of infected messages to friends and colleagues and swamping e-mail systems.

It disrupted the operations of thousands of U.S. companies and government agencies whose employees were temporarily unable to communicate by e-mail.

Mr. Smith was snared with the help of technicians from America Online Inc. and a computer task force composed of federal and state agents, Ms. Malley said.

Experts had said there were clues that the virus writer had distributed the virus using an account stolen from America Online 15 months ago. Several anti-virus software makers, including McAfee, Symantec and Sophos, posted software on their Web sites that detect and reject the Melissa virus.

(AP, AFP)

Taiwan Computer Firms Cleaning Up in U.S. Boom

Bloomberg News

TAIPEI — America's economic expansion and the Internet boom have translated into a windfall for Taiwan's leading computer and semiconductor companies, which are riding a crest of booming sales as suppliers to U.S. manufacturers.

Acer Inc., one of the world's top 10 personal computer makers, reported record sales of 1.35 billion Taiwan dollars (\$407.5 million) in March on growing demand from International Business Machines Corp. The company's sales climbed 40 percent in the first quarter, and it said it anticipated its strongest year ever as its relationship with IBM continued to expand.

In another sign of the boom, Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. said Friday that it was running at full capacity through April, which would probably lift earnings in the second quarter.

"The demand from our customers is extremely strong," said Huang Yen-chun, a vice president at Taiwan Semiconductor. "That's going to have a positive impact on our sales and profits."

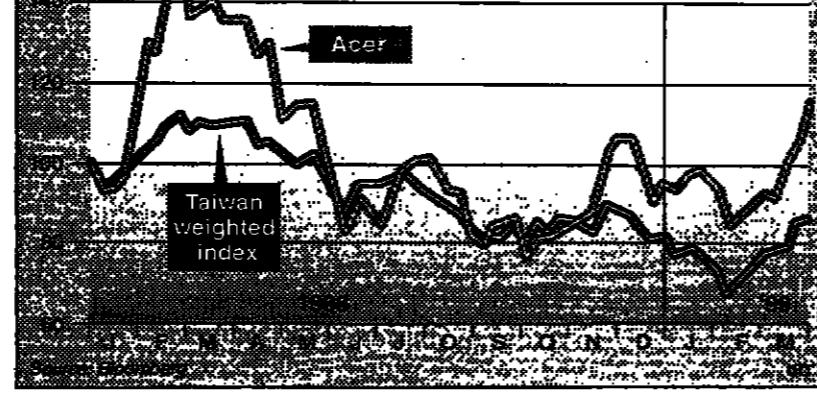
The bright outlook for the Taiwan high-tech industry helped power the domestic stock market to its biggest gain in six weeks Friday. Acer climbed 5.8 percent and Taiwan Semiconductor rose 1.4 percent, helping lift Taiwan's benchmark stock index 3.05 percent.

All of Taiwan Semiconductor's production lines are fully booked this month, compared with "a little more than" 90 percent in March and 90 percent in February, Mr. Huang said.

Taiwan Semiconductor is Taiwan's bellwether technology stock and the world's biggest contract chipmaker. The company and its rivals, United Microelectronics Corp. of Taiwan and Chartered Semiconductor Manufacturing Ltd. of Singapore, are benefiting from an increase in outsourcing by ATI Technology Inc., Xilinx Inc. and other chip companies in North America and Japan.

Acer predicts that this year will hit a record 100 billion dollars, largely because of sales to IBM and a reorganization of several unprofitable units. Acer and other computer-related companies are improving sales as U.S. clients such as IBM and Motorola Inc. increasingly turn to Taiwan to help them cut costs.

Shares of Acer Inc. vs. the Taiwan stock market weighted index, Jan. 1, 1998-100



Murdoch Eyes Liberty Media Deal Would Increase News Corp.'s Grip on U.S. Sports

By Geraldine Fabrikant
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Rupert Murdoch is poised to take a big step toward increasing his hold over U.S. sports programming by agreeing to buy the 50 percent stake owned by John Malone's Liberty Media Corp. in a venture that controls a dozen regional sports networks, according to people familiar with the transaction.

As part of the deal, they said Thursday, News Corp. would also double its stake — to 40 percent — in the New York Knicks, the New York Rangers, Madison Square Garden and Radio City Music Hall.

Liberty Media would get \$1.4 billion of News Corp. stock, giving it 5 percent of the company and making it the largest single outside investor. The Murdoch family owns roughly 31 percent.

One industry analyst who requested anonymity said Thursday that the deal could help Liberty Media acquire up to 10 percent of News Corp., whose stock has been depressed compared with other media stocks.

A News Corp. spokesman said there was no deal now, adding that he did not comment on rumors. A Liberty Media spokesman declined to comment.

The deal would fit the style and interests of both men.

Mr. Murdoch has long believed that sports is one of the key elements in programming, along with movies, news and children's shows, and he has spent heavily to acquire it. He already owns the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Manchester United soccer team in England, and he has options to invest in the Los Angeles Lakers basketball team and Los Angeles Kings hockey team.

But Mr. Murdoch prefers to control his own operations and avoid acquiring partners who might hold him back from making other investments.

Mr. Malone, meanwhile, has generally preferred to hold stakes in programming companies that were managed by others. When possible, he has preferred to build a portfolio of assets in public companies.

Liberty Media, which was spun off from Tele-Communications Inc., a cable company, has acquired stakes in a wide variety of media companies. It already owns 10 percent of Time Warner Inc. as well as positions in USA Networks Inc., Discovery Communications Inc., United Video Satellite Group Inc. and others.

Last summer, when Mr. Malone agreed to sell Tele-Communications to AT&T Corp. and took control of Liberty, it was clear that he planned to expand it. The company now has \$5.5 billion in cash, about \$5 billion in Sprint-PCS stock and the right to borrow up to 25 percent of its market capitalization — \$36 billion Thursday — without getting permission from AT&T.

"He has a tremendous war chest," said John T. Nelson of NationsBank Montgomery Securities — one reason why Mr. Malone may be eyeing a larger stake in News Corp.

The news Thursday pushed News Corp. stock up \$1.0625 to close at \$30.56, though it has only risen 12.4 percent in the past 52 weeks. Liberty Media closed at \$4.75, up \$2.15. U.S. markets were closed Friday for a holiday.

OPTIMUS

Société d'Investissement à Capital Variable
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NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

Shareholders of OPTIMUS (the "Fund") are hereby informed that the prospectus of June 1998 will be amended as of May 1999 to reflect the following changes.

Termination of the following Portfolio:

OPTIMUS - NORDIC BONDS (NOK)

OPTIMUS - NORDIC EQUITIES (NOK)

OPTIMUS - EUROPEAN EQUITIES (NOK)

The Board of Directors of the Fund deems it appropriate, because of changes in the economic situation and of the small size of these three Portfolios (the "Affected Portfolios") far below the threshold of twenty (20) million NOK net assets provided in the fund's Articles of Incorporation in this respect to terminate the Affected Portfolios with effect one month after the date of publication of the present notice, date on which it is expected that no Shares of the Affected Portfolios shall be in issue anymore. Meanwhile subscriptions or conversions into the two remaining Portfolios or other Funds domiciled in Luxembourg of the S-E-Banken Group will be accepted free of charge. However no subscriptions or conversions into the Affected Portfolios will be accepted anymore.

Change of the Base Currency and name change of the following Portfolio:

OPTIMUS - WORLDWIDE (USD)

The board has resolved to change the base currency of this Portfolio from USD to NOK

The Prospectus will be amended as follows:

"OPTIMUS - WORLDWIDE (NOK)

CURRENCY: The share are denominated in NOK and the Net Asset Value shall be expressed in NOK. The investment policy will not be changed.

Stock split

The Board has resolved to split the shares at a proportion of 100 to 1 of the two remaining Portfolios:

OPTIMUS - BALANCED PORTFOLIO (NOK)

OPTIMUS - WORLDWIDE (NOK)

All shareholders of these two Portfolios will receive 100 new shares after split for each old share held

Prospectus

The amended prospectus dated May 1999 may be obtained on request at the offices of the SICAV or the Transfer Agent.

Redemptions or conversions at no cost can still be made during a one month period from the date of publication of this notice, at the respective applicable net asset values.

The Board of Directors

CURRENCY RATES

April 1-April 2 Other Dollar Values

	Currency	Per \$	Per £	Per €	Per Dm	Per Fr.	Per Yen	Per C\$	Per Dan.	Per Greek	Per Swede
Cross Rates											
London (1)	2.2698	191.85	2.4162	11.0343	484.41	13.1923	1.0701	1.7289	1.9713	1.0206	1.5316
New York (2)	1.4025	1.6805	1.2050	1.495	6.6971	8.2176	1.7257	1.2247	1.2193	1.4254	1.4254
Tokyo	120.55	192.30	81.44	80.31	17.51	14.66	1.4925	1.4925	1.4925	1.4925	1.4925
Toronto	1.3057	2.1418	1.0188	1.2597	0.2169	0.1831	0.4996	0.1831</td			

Broadcast.com's Founders Turn Passion for Sports Into Gold

By Greg Chang
Bloomberg News

DALLAS — Mark Cuban and Todd Wagner were hell-bent on getting radio broadcasts of Indiana University basketball games in the heart of Texas, so they started Broadcast.com Inc. in a spare bedroom in 1995 to track their alma mater's play.

Their passion for sports pulled in a lot more with Yahoo! Inc.'s offer of \$6.08 billion in stock and options for their company, which broadcasts audio and video entertainment and corporate events over the Internet.

Mr. Cuban, Broadcast.com's chairman and president, stands to reap about \$1.28 billion for his 9.25 million shares and Mr. Wagner, the company's chief executive officer, will get about \$683.1 million for his 4.92 million shares.

Mr. Wagner and Mr. Cuban have gone from putting radio broadcasts of college basketball games on-line to providing live feeds from more than 350 radio stations nationwide. The duo also have turned to serving corporate customers, who put conference calls and

other events on-line to reach a wide audience cheaply.

"Both of them are visionaries," said Phil Leigh, an analyst with Raymond James & Associates. "They have the cordiality of true gentlemen, with the business aggressiveness of type A personalities with rabies."

Mr. Wagner, 37, and Mr. Cuban, listed as 39 in a July regulatory filing, both took business classes at Indiana. Mr. Wagner majored in accounting and Mr. Cuban earned a business degree.

Mr. Cuban went on to start a systems-integration company in 1983, called Microsolutions Inc., that he sold to on-line service CompuServe Corp. in 1990.

Mr. Wagner, meanwhile, earned a law degree and was a law-firm partner from 1992 to 1994.

The pair launched a company called BroadcastNet Inc. in 1995 with backing from Intel Corp. and Motorola Inc. After changing its name to Broadcast.com, they took it public last July at a split-adjusted \$9 a share. The shares, which since have soared as high as \$144.75,

rose \$11.8125 Thursday to \$130.

The Dallas-based company gained a broad audience last year when it aired the deposition by President Bill Clinton that concerned his relationship with Monica Lewinsky, the former White House intern. It also reaped new visitors

Mr. Cuban should get \$1.28 billion from the Yahoo! deal, and Mr. Wagner \$683 million.

as World Wide Web host of a lingerie fashion show featuring models and attire from Intimate Brands Inc.'s Victoria's Secret.

Broadcast.com also offers other entertainment, such as live feeds of more than 350 radio stations and dozens of television stations. It has exclusive Internet broadcast rights for many of the stations, with the aim of making money by selling ads that appear when users view or listen to the material on-line.

Most observers agree that on-line multimedia, entertainment, and news

will only really take off once high-speed Internet access becomes widely available, which could take a few years.

Likewise, Broadcast.com's real success so far has come less from entertaining Web surfers than from helping corporate customers with broad-casting events such as product introductions and conference calls to far-flung audiences. Broadcast.com derived 62 percent of its \$22.4 million in revenue from business services in 1998, compared with 58 percent of \$9.15 million in 1997.

The company's client list includes computer makers Silicon Graphics Inc. and Dell Computer Corp., and Harvard University.

"When Hillary Clinton or Yasser Arafat come to the Kennedy School, there are a lot of people who are interested in what they have to say, but can't make it to Cambridge," said Miriam Danoff, a Harvard spokeswoman.

Corporate customers also benefit because their audience listens in mainly from work, with high-speed connections that make the downloads faster.

COHEN: After J. Peterman Sinks, Executive Is Described There as a 'Serial Killer'

Continued from Page 9

that Mr. Cohen made mistakes during the catalogue company's rapid expansion into store-based retailing. For example, Mr. Cohen signed long and expensive leases for outlets that the associate says were too big to display merchandise effectively. To this day, the source says, several J. Crew stores have to wall off and leave unused large sections of floor space.

Still, it was only when he had the opportunity to run a business unchecked by a powerful overseer like Mr. Cindler that he ran into serious trouble. Mr. Cohen took the helm of London Fog Co. in September 1993, when the company, a venerable Maryland-based raincoat

maker, was facing a slow decline. Mr. Cohen, hired to give the staid brand a jolt, promised a turnaround, including a doubling of sales to \$700 million from \$350 million three years. He set about cutting costs by, among other things, closing five American factories.

While that move was necessary, former colleagues say, he moved too quickly, causing quality and delivery glitches. Mr. Cohen would not comment on the record about the transformation, but even his allies said it was not well paced.

"Arnie has great ideas," said Chris Fiore, who worked under him at London Fog. "He needs to learn patience. Organizations just cannot absorb all the initiatives that he wants to accomplish on his schedule."

At the same time, Mr. Cohen began another unusual policy, a notable instance, former colleagues say, of his assertiveness. He forbade stores to mark down the brand's merchandise until Dec. 8 of that year, saying his aim was to re-establish London Fog's elite image.

But the move infuriated retailers, who traditionally do their best raincoat business during promotions around Thanksgiving. William Crain, who was part of the company say, was a key mover behind

the team that came in to resuscitate the company from near-death a year later, said the policy "clearly alienated the trade."

Bob Grayson, a retail veteran on the board of London Fog as well as a personal friend of Mr. Cohen's from Westport, Connecticut, argues that the company was in worse shape when Mr. Cohen took over than anybody knew.

"Critical financial information was not made available to the new management," he said.

But Mr. Cohen took some of the blame. Eleven months later, with London Fog hemorrhaging cash and its debt swollen to \$425 million, Mr. Cohen was out of the company. He quickly rebounded, though not to the same heights. He was hired in the spring of 1994 by Today's Man Inc. as executive vice president for merchandising and marketing.

When Cohen arrived, Today's Man was booming. Less than two years later, in February 1996, it filed for bankruptcy. Certainly, there were forces at work well beyond Mr. Cohen's control, including a poor retail season in 1995 and an over-expansion that began before Mr. Cohen's tenure. Still, executives at the company say, was a key mover behind

decisions that resulted in inflated advertising budgets and ballooning inventory.

Mr. Cohen was out again by spring 1996. He started shopping around for a company and made a bid for a job at J. Peterman. It turned him down at first, but after a year of negotiations, J. Peterman hired him to be president and chief operating officer. The company's sales, which had been rising steadily, were \$65 million in 1997, but the poorly run firm had almost never made a profit.

He envisioned raising sales to \$90 million by the end of 1998 by expanding into as many as 70 retail outlets. To reach this explosive goal he spent lavishly, especially for a company as small as J. Peterman. He hired a slew of expensive executives, paying six-figure salaries in addition to pricey fees to headhunters. He himself earned \$500,000 a year in salary plus \$1 million in stock options, which are now worthless.

Mr. Cohen now works as a retail consultant. He says he has clients but declined to list any. He said that he was "disappointed" with how J. Peterman turned out. "But," he added, with characteristic optimism, "I think it was a learning opportunity."

—By Michael S. Lizza

Japan Rebuffs U.S. on Trade

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — A U.S. government report that said China, the European Union and Japan had not done enough to dismantle trade barriers was sharply criticized Friday by Tokyo as "unilateral and erroneous."

The report, issued Thursday by the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, said Washington would "continue to press Japan to implement further concrete deregulation measures."

Trade Minister Kaoru Yosano of Japan said the report was "dotted with unilateral and erroneous descriptions."

Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi said he was concerned about Washington's reinstatement of the so-called Super 301 trade weapon, which allows the United States to take retaliatory action against countries deemed unfair trade partners.

(AP, AP)

Dollar Rises As Funds Leave Japan

Bloomberg News

NEW YORK — The dollar edged higher against the yen Friday as the flow of money out of the country triggered by Japanese investors seeking higher yields abroad outweighed renewed foreign interest in Japanese assets.

After months of shunning Japanese investments as the country suffers in

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

worst recession in 50 years, portfolio managers are starting to ease back into Japanese markets. The benchmark stock Nikkei stock average has risen about 17 percent in the past month.

"The main driving force behind the yen is the flow of funds both into and out of Japan," said Alison Montgomery, a currency analyst at IDEAS. "The flow into Japan as investors re-weight their portfolio is dominating" and will keep the dollar from rising above 121 yen in the coming week, she said.

In late New York trading, the dollar rose to 120.505 yen from 120.470 yen Thursday. The euro edged up against the dollar, rising to \$1.0795 from \$1.0792. The pound rose to \$1.6035 from \$1.6033. The dollar rose to 1.4805 Swiss francs from 1.4800 francs. Trading was thin because many markets were closed for a holiday.

Very briefly:

• Ninety-three percent of U.S. banks now charge people for the use of their automated teller machines, up from 71 percent a year ago, according to a survey by U.S. Public Interest Research Group.

• The Stanley Works, the U.S. hand-tool maker, will cut 400 jobs at a plant in New Britain, Connecticut, as it moves certain hardware lines to more efficient plants in North America and Asia.

• TheStreet.com Inc., an Internet financial site, plans to sell 5.5 million common shares for \$11 to \$13 in its initial public offering. The company is selling shares to expand its news Web site and attract more readers.

• Gillette Co. has filed to register 25.6 million shares for sale by Kohlberg, Kravis, Roberts & Co., a step that will reduce the buyout group's stake in the Boston razor maker by half and bring it about \$1.52 billion.

AP, Bloomberg

Markets Closed

Most financial markets worldwide were closed Friday because of the Easter holiday on Sunday. U.S. financial markets will reopen Monday, while most European markets will remain closed until Tuesday.

The World Stock Markets table appears on Page 12.

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EUROPE

Salomon Aims to Rebuild European Investment Bank

By Julianne Ratner
Bloomberg News

LONDON — Michael Klein, a managing director of Salomon Smith Barney Inc., sat in a room for 10 days straight with three other executives a year-and-a-half ago to negotiate what the merged investment banks of Salomon Brothers Inc. and Smith Barney Inc. would look like.

Hammering out a blueprint for the firm now called Salomon Smith Barney should help him get this European investment bank, a subsidiary of Citigroup Inc., on track after a series of high-level departures weakened its position.

Mr. Klein, 35, and Edward Miller, 56, this week were named co-heads of European investment banking.

"There is a clear amount of opportunity here in Europe to build a world-class investment bank," said Mr. Klein, who will also co-manage the part of Smith Barney that caters to financial buyers such as Kohlberg, Kravis, Roberts & Co.

Salomon Smith Barney is aiming to be No. 1 or No. 2 in all its businesses, he said, including European investment banking.

The pair have a long way to go. In the first quarter, Salomon did not rank among the top 10 advisers to European companies in mergers and acquisitions. Last year it ranked second. The slide in

standings came as European transactions accounted for 41 percent of worldwide merger activity, the most since the third quarter of 1992, according to preliminary data from Securities Data Corp.

Salomon Smith Barney did manage a few big transactions, such as Vivendi SA's \$7.9 billion acquisition of U.S. Filter Corp., which Salomon advised. Salomon was also the top underwriter of Eurobonds so far this year, according to Bloomberg analytics.

Still, the departure of senior bankers has hurt. In the first quarter, Salomon Smith Barney lost the head of its equity capital

markets, a banker overseeing relationships with financial institutions, the head of its Russia and emerging markets units, and executives working with German and Spanish companies.

Mr. Klein and Mr. Miller, both of whom are managing directors

In the first quarter, Salomon did not rank among the top 10 advisers to European companies in mergers and acquisitions.

"The key thing for these guys is to stem the recent turnover," said Giles Simons, an executive recruiter. "These two guys want to get a clear message to the marketplace what their direction is, and the rest will follow."

Last month, Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette Inc. hired two Salomon bankers, Richard Booth and Michael Meinhardt, to be co-heads of a group that caters to European financial institutions.

Lehman Brothers Holding Inc. this week hired Tim Lindberg from Salomon as executive director in charge of Nordics equity capital markets.

He will report to another Salomon alumnus, John St. John, co-head of global equity capital markets.

Miguel Salis, whom Salomon named managing director for Spanish corporate finance in December, left two months later to become president of a Spanish telecommunications company, James Danner, head of Russia and emerging markets, and Joanna Meager, head of

Salomon's euro conversion project, also resigned.

"Am I concerned about the people who left before we got here? Absolutely," Mr. Miller said, but he said he was confident the team was strong and would not have trouble hiring more people. Salomon "wants to pick the team to work for the next 10 or 20 years, not just the next few years," Mr. Klein said.

Mr. Miller has been at the firm almost as long as Mr. Klein has been alive. He is a past chairman, chief executive officer and president of Smith Barney International. Before that he ran Smith Barney's Paris office.

Mr. Freeman, who turned over some of his responsibilities to Mr. Miller and Mr. Klein, has been co-CEO of Salomon Smith Barney's European business for less than a year. He returned to Salomon in June 1997 after six years with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Previously, he worked for Salomon for 18 years in New York and London.

Very briefly:

• RAO Unified Energy Systems, Russia's national electricity, and RWE AG, Germany's No. 2 utility, signed a cooperation agreement that may help increase exports of Russian electricity to western Europe.

• United Pan-Europe Communications NV, a Dutch cable company, has agreed to buy Time Warner Entertainment's three French cable systems for \$71 million, gaining 64,000 subscribers.

• Groupe SEB SA, a maker of home appliances, is seeking shareholder authorization to buy back up to 5 percent of its stock. The company said one of the aims of the buyback was to grant shares to employees and stabilize its share price.

• General Electric Capital Corp., and Banco Portugués de Investimento SA are to acquire a combined 45 percent in the Romanian state-run bank Banc Post SA.

• Belgium's unemployment rate fell to 11.7 percent in March from 12 percent in February.

• Synergo Informatika, a Hungarian computer system integration firm, set a maximum price of 3,250 forint (\$13.67) per share for its initial public offering later this month.

• Seita SA, a French tobacco company, is to close a factory and two distribution centers as demand wanes for heavy, dark-tobacco cigarettes.

• Laurus NV, a Dutch food retailer, said net income rose to 213 million guilders (\$104 million) in 1998 from 192 million guilders in 1997 as acquisitions in Spain contributed to growth in operating profit.

Bloomberg, Reuters

Bayer Sets \$8.1 Billion for U.S.

Agence France-Presse

LEVERKUSEN, Germany — Bayer AG plans to invest \$8.1 billion in the United States over a five-year period beginning next year, a company spokesman said.

Of the total, \$5.1 billion will be devoted to research into animal, plant and human health, with the remainder being spent on production, the spokesman said late Thursday.

The plan extends an investment program begun in 1995 and means that by the end of 2004, Bayer will have spent \$15 billion in the United States, the company's second largest market after Europe.

In the next two years Bayer intends to launch a series of drugs in the United States to treat hemophilia, infections and acute heart disorders, said the spokesman, Michael Preuss.

Gucci Group Faces Fight Over Shares

Bloomberg News

PARIS — Minority shareholders of Gucci Group NV may ask an Amsterdam court to challenge the company's move to sell shares to Finaut-Printemps-Reducit SA, arguing the move dilutes their stake and deprives them of a full-blown bidding war, a French shareholder activist said Friday.

Colette Neville, acting on behalf of unidentified Gucci shareholders, said that under a European directive about capital increases, the sale of 39 million new shares to Pinaut, to fend off advances by LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton SA, violates Gucci shareholder rights. LVMH owns 20 percent of Gucci.

She added, "We're surprised that Gucci, quoted in New York and Amsterdam, could increase its capital without ever going to shareholders and without bringing in outside experts."

A Gucci spokesman said the right to issue shares was approved by shareholders in 1995. A Pinaut executive said the capital increase "completely respected Dutch law and was done in accordance with the European directive."

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Shareholders are hereby convened to attend the Statutory General Meeting of the shareholders, which will take place at the company's registered office in Luxembourg on April 15, 1999 at 15:00 for the purpose of considering and voting upon the following points:

AGENDA OF THE STATUTORY GENERAL MEETING

1. Reports of the Board of Directors and of the Independent Auditor.
2. Approval of the Financial Statements made up as of December 31, 1998.
3. Discharge to the Directors and to the Independent Auditor.
4. Statutory Appointments.
5. Miscellaneous.

Resolutions on the agenda of the Statutory General Meeting will require no quorum and will be taken at the majority of the votes expressed by the shareholders present or represented.

Shareholders who cannot attend the meeting are invited to send a proxy to the registered office to arrive not later than April 10, 1999. Proxy forms will be sent to registered shareholders. Proxy forms may also be obtained from the registered office.

The owners of bearer shares will have to deposit their shares five clear days before the meeting at either:

- BANQUE FERRIER LULLIN (LUXEMBOURG) S.A. 36, avenue Montrouge, Luxembourg-2163
- FERRIER LULLIN & CIE S.A. 15, rue Pelet, CH-1211 Geneva 11
- DEMACHY WORMS & CIE S.A. 35, rue La Boétie F-75008 PARIS
- CBC BANQUE S.A. 3, GRAND PLACE B - 1000 BRUXELLES

The Board of Directors

Paris Sets Conditions for Credit Lyonnais Sale

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — The government, seeking a safe start for Credit Lyonnais in the private sector, said Friday that any companies interested in the bank would have to buy into it for at least two years, and preferably four.

The Finance Ministry is offering a maximum 33 percent stake in the bank to what it describes as the "shareholder-partner" group to be created in the first stage of the privatization. Each of those shareholders will be limited to a maximum 10 percent.

Paris said in a statement that successful bidders would have to maintain their stake, without raising or lowering it, for two years, and that if they wished to sell out, they would be bound in the next two years to sell to others in the shareholder-partner group.

It also said the shareholder-partners, which are expected to form a "strong and stable" base for the bank, would be asked to contribute to a capital increase of 8 billion French francs (\$1.33 billion) to reinforce Credit Lyonnais' financial position.

The Finance Ministry said the procedure had been adopted "in the interests of the state and taxpayer, and of the company and its employees."

The government gave its official approval to the privatization plan on March 14, but the details of the plan, due to be completed in June, were still subject to approval by the privatization commission.

The state plans to keep 10 percent of the bank, which was the largest in Europe before a string of ruinous

investments at the end of the 1980s pushed it to the brink of collapse, requiring several multi-billion-dollar bailouts at taxpayers' expense.

The rescue, including a slimming-down, has cost an estimated 120 billion francs and makes the state politically sensitive for the Socialist-led government, which also has to preserve up to 10 percent of the floated stock for sale to the bank's employees. France promised to privatize Credit Lyonnais in exchange for European Commission approval of the bailouts.

By setting up a group of core

shareholders at the outset, the government has said it aims to give the bank a few years' breathing space to continue its recovery and then choose an alliance partner from a position of strength.

Several banks have expressed interest in bidding for stakes, including the French mutual bank Credit Agricole SA, the insurer Axa SA, Allianz AG of Germany, Commerzbank AG, Societe Generale SA and Paribas SA.

Potential shareholder-partners would have until April 28 to make their offers, which will be selected based

on financial, industrial, strategic and competitive criteria, the Finance Ministry said. It also said the offer's impact on jobs would be taken into account.

The bank's chairman, Jean Peyrelade, has estimated its value at between 35 billion and 40 billion francs, of which the state could realize 25 billion to 30 billion francs through the share sale.

The bank reported 1998 net attributable profit of 163 million euros (\$176 million), compared with 54 million euros in 1997.

(Reuters, AFP)

BNP to Buy Back its Shares at Top Price

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — Banque Nationale de Paris, which has initiated hostile all-stock bids to buy two rivals, plans to buy back up to 10 percent of its capital to help stabilize its share price, the French stock market regulator, COB, said Friday.

BNP said it would buy back shares at a maximum price of 120 euros (\$129), considerably higher than Thursday's closing price of 80 euros. The Paris stock market was closed Friday for the Easter holiday.

BNP does not own any of its own shares, and the buyback cannot begin until its \$38 billion bid for Societe Generale SA and Paribas SA close in May.

The hostile bids, which would

create the only bank in the world with \$1 trillion in assets, came in the middle of an agreed \$19 billion bid by Societe Generale for Paribas. All the bids are share swaps.

In an interview published Friday in the French daily *Le Figaro*, BNP's chief executive, Michel Pebernard, repeated his willingness to meet with the management of the target banks and hammer out an agreement.

"I wholeheartedly hope that the period of our offer will permit a rapprochement between the points of view of all the parties concerned, taking into account the interests of each company," Mr. Pebernard said.

"I am ready, for my part, for a dialogue to improve our plan."

The boards of Paribas and Societe

Generale are scheduled to meet Tuesday to respond to the BNP bid.

Analysts said they expected the two companies to refuse BNP's bid and continue trying to thwart it.

Societe Generale and Paribas have until mid-May to come up with a countermove, but analysts said they thought the two companies would have trouble coming up with the money to outflank BNP and would have to compromise.

"BNP's offer has been tactically well played," said Didier Izabel, head of mergers and acquisitions at Cie Financiere Edmond de Rothschild Banque. "If SocGen makes a sweetened offer for Paribas, their own shares could fall and that would make BNP's offer even more attractive."

(AFP, Bloomberg)

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Personals

THANK YOU SACRED HEART of Jesus & Saint Jude for special prayers answered. D.W.

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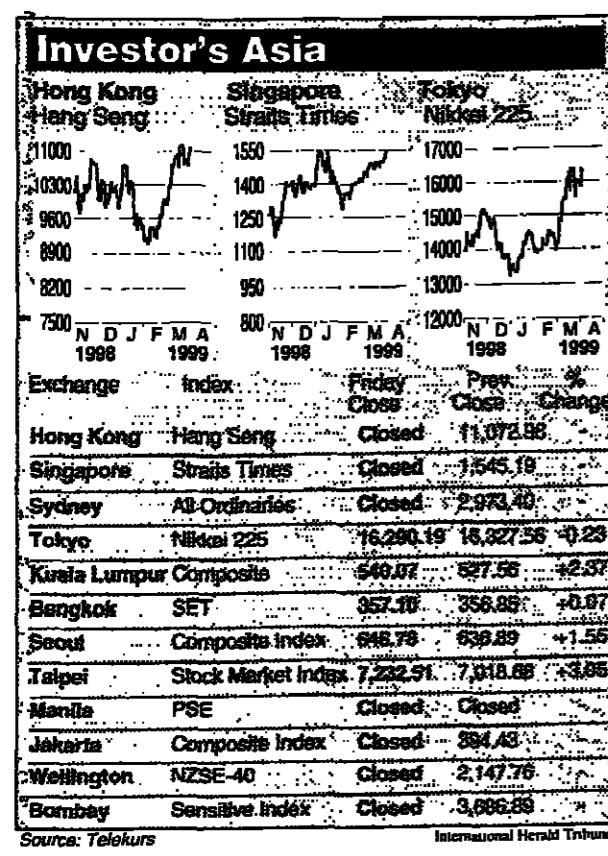
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Source: Telekurs

Labor Union Emerges from China's Unemployment Woes

The Associated Press

BEIJING — Workers in the northern Chinese port city of Tianjin announced Friday the formation of an underground labor union dedicated to helping Chinese workers regain their place as the "masters of the nation."

Labor activists formed the Chinese Association to Protect Workers' Rights because "the government-run so-called union" does not serve the workers' interests, the new union said in a statement released by the Free China Movement, a Washington-based dissident lobbying group.

China's communist leaders allow only government-backed unions, and pools them into one tightly controlled trade union congress. At a

time of soaring unemployment, authorities fear that democracy campaigners might link up with frustrated workers and threaten Communist Party rule.

Fearful of government retaliation, the activists formed the new group in the city of Tianjin during a secret meeting in a factory that the Free China Movement did not identify. The names of the organizers were not released.

In Tianjin, near Beijing, nearly one-third of the city's 2 million workers have been laid off, according to the new union's statement.

The union vowed to restore the working class to its leading role in society — a status enshrined in China's constitution.

The group said it had a right to

form under the Chinese constitution and two key UN human rights documents that China has signed, but not yet ratified. In practice, however, the government has arrested people trying to set up labor unions and political parties.

Debt-ridden factories have laid off millions of unneeded workers as part of reforms, creating a huge oversupply of labor. Rights abuses have included unpaid mandatory overtime, low wages, arbitrary fines, and physical abuse and humiliation at the hands of factory bosses, according to reports in the Chinese press and by foreign scholars.

There have been numerous demonstrations around China by workers angry because factories

have not paid them their wages, pensions or the meager unemployment stipends they are entitled to.

In the early decades of Chinese communism, workers held a privileged place. Jobs in state factories were prized because they ensured cradle-to-grave benefits and high social status.

But the benefits and status have eroded as China has shifted from a planned economy to a market-oriented one, forcing state factories to streamline to compete.

■ Calls for Radical Reform

Radical market reform of China's investment and financing systems is required if "high financial risks" are to be avoided, the state media quoted a senior Chinese official as

saying Friday, Agence France-Presse reported from Beijing.

China should narrow the area of investment for state-owned enterprises and focus on expanding investment areas and channels available to the private sector, Xinhua news agency quoted Yi Gang, deputy secretary-general of the State Council's Monetary Policy Commission, as saying.

The private sector should also be allowed to invest in areas dominated by the government, including infrastructure and public projects, said Mr. Yi, who is also deputy director of monetary policy at the central bank.

The current system of investment and finance has characteristics of a planned economy and could be subject to large financial risks, he said.

Truck Plan Reviewed By Nissan

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

Very briefly:

• Mitsui O.S.K. Lines Ltd. plans to eliminate 500 jobs by March 2001, reducing its 2,100-member work force by 24 percent to cut costs. The Japanese shipping firm also expects a 57 percent increase in parent operating profit, to 25 billion yen (\$207.5 million), for the financial year ended Wednesday.

• China's commercial banks should "appropriately increase" loans to unprofitable state enterprises "while preventing financial risks," the official Economic Daily quoted a senior official of the State Economic and Trade Commission as saying, in a reflection of concern over rising unemployment.

• China signed agreements with two U.S. telecommunications companies, Motorola Inc. and Lucent Technologies Inc., in a sign that confirmed Beijing's pledge to the U.S. commerce secretary, William Daley, to approve the nationwide introduction of the U.S. mobile telephone technology known as Code Division Multiple Access or CDMA.

• Mitsubishi Motors Corp. will jointly develop and market medium-duty trucks with Volvo AB, expanding an alliance formed in 1997, the Sankei newspaper quoted a Mitsubishi executive as saying.

• Minolta Co. lowered its forecast of 1998-99 group net profit to 6 billion yen from 9 billion yen, saying it would post 2.8 billion yen in special losses for the year ended Wednesday from investments in its subsidiaries and forgiveness of claims.

• LG Group of South Korea has agreed to sell its 50 percent stake in LG-Honeywell Ltd. to its equal partner in the venture, Honeywell Inc., for 15 billion won (\$13.5 million) as part of LG's efforts to reduce the number of its affiliates and pare debt.

• Indonesia has banned 172 executives of failing banks from traveling abroad, the Antara news agency reported, quoting Finance Minister Bambang Subianto. The ban will apply while his department checks the assets and liabilities of the banks.

• Putnam Investments Inc. of the United States acquired a 10 percent stake in Nissay Asset Management Corp., a subsidiary of Nippon Life Insurance Co. of Japan. Nippon Life companies acquired about 80 percent of a 16 billion yen private share offering and other Japanese companies bought the rest.

Bloomberg, Reuters, AFP



Hyundai Clinches Oil Deal

Reuters

SEOUL — Hyundai Oil Refinery Co. has completed a \$2.45 billion deal to take over Hanwha Energy Co. and its sales operation Hanwha Energy Plaza, the two companies said Friday.

The oil-refining arm of Hyundai Group signed a contract Friday to acquire a 38.82 percent stake in Hanwha Energy from Hanwha Group. It is also acquiring 100 percent of Hanwha Energy Plaza.

"Hyundai Oil will take over Hanwha Energy and Plaza in exchange for acquiring 3 trillion won (\$2.67

billion) worth of the two firms' debts," a Hanwha spokesman said.

The two companies signed a memorandum of understanding on March 19. In September, Hyundai announced its takeover plans as a part of the government-initiated "big deals" program, aimed at encouraging industrial consolidation. But the acquisition does not include Hanwha's power unit.

Prior to the deal, Hyundai said creditors of Hanwha Energy agreed to convert 1.22 trillion won of Hanwha's short-term debt to long-term loans, clearing the way for the deal.

ECONOMY: Asia Shows Signs of Recovery

Continued from Page 1

unemployment rate is the highest since 1974, and Japan this past week reported that joblessness had risen to a record 4.6 percent.

Some of the world's largest financial services firms, including Merrill Lynch & Co., Bear Stearns Cos. and Daiwa Securities Co. have laid off large numbers of staff in the region or closed down whole departments during the past 18 months.

The trend could now be ending, according to the Korn/Ferry survey.

Mr. Neiss, the IMF official, indicated that the Fund would increase its forecasts for economic growth in Thailand and Malaysia, while the forecast for the Philippines may be reduced. A new set of IMF forecasts will be unveiled later this month when the agency releases its World Economic Outlook during the Fund's spring meetings in Washington together with the World Bank.

Malaysia may have its outlook raised to growth of 1 percent or more in 1999, from the prediction of a 2 percent contraction in the Fund's survey in December.

In Thailand, the Fund is predicting "slight positive growth" of about 1 percent to 2 percent, Mr. Neiss said. In December it forecast growth of 1 percent.

The agency's estimate that the Philippine economy will expand 2.5 percent

EU Envoy Urges Asia To Pursue Free Trade

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

KUALA LUMPUR — The European Union's trade commissioner urged Asian nations Friday not to jettison free trade and liberalization in their efforts to recover from the region's economic crisis.

"Asia can take off again, but this will critically depend on the policies adopted by governments," Sir Leon Brittan, the interim EU trade commissioner, said. "It will not recover the growth rates of the past just by internal development.

You have everything to gain from further liberalization."

Sir Leon's comments were made to business executives and diplomats on the second day of his four-day tour to drum up support for a new round of talks of the 134-member World Trade Organization in November in Seattle.

While rich nations want the talks to accelerate free trade, many developing countries worry that joining such talks may force them to liberalize their markets to the point of harming their domestic industries.

Malaysia has implemented a broad range of import restrictions, including an across-the-board 1.5 percent increase in tariffs since October 1997, bringing its weighted average tariff to about 9.5 percent, and has also set a high level of protection for the automobile industry.

"We regret that and hope it will change," Sir Leon said.

AP, Bloomberg, AFP

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Friday, April 2		High	Low	Close	Prev.	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Prices in local currencies. In euros for EU countries.									
Telekurs									
Athens	Composite Index: 3302.49	3298.49	3292.49	3291.49	3291.49	3298.49	3292.49	3291.49	3291.49
Commercial Bk	44.60	42.01	42.01	42.01	42.01	42.55	42.01	42.01	42.01
Europ. Bourse	72.53	71.20	71.20	71.20	71.20	72.02	71.20	71.20	71.20
Finance Corp.	72.25	71.20	71.20	71.20	71.20	72.25	71.20	71.20	71.20
Hercules Cement	7.07	7.01	7.01	7.01	7.01	7.05	7.01	7.01	7.01
Hell. Bank	20.59	19.81	19.81	19.81	19.81	20.59	19.81	19.81	19.81
Yam. Cement	22.92	21.62	21.62	21.62	21.62	22.18	21.62	21.62	21.62
Bangkok	SET Index: 257.10	257.10	257.10	257.10	257.10	257.10	257.10	257.10	257.10
Adv. Inds. Bk	244.00	242.00	242.00	242.00	242.00	244.00	242.00	242.00	242.00
Bank of Asia F.	79.00	78.00	78.00	78.00	78.00	79.00	78.00	78.00	78.00
Finance Corp.	14.00	13.90	13.90	13.90	13.90	14.00	13.90	13.90	13.90
Delta Electr.	149.00	144.00	144.00	144.00	144.00	149.00	144.00	144.00	144.00
Elect. Corp. F.	79.00	77.50	77.50	77.50	77.50	79.00	77.50	77.50	77.50
Fin. Aman.	21.50	21.20	21.20	21.20	21.20	21.50	21.20	21.20	21.20
PTT Explor. F.	794.00	792.00	792.00	792.00	792.00	792.00	792.00	792.00	792.00
Siem. Camer. F.	83.00	82.00	82.00	82.00	82.00	83.00	82.00	82.00	82.00
Trans. Aman. F.	21.50	21.20	21.20	21.20	21.20	21.50	21.20	21.20	21.20
Thail. Fin. G.	79.50	77.50	77.50	77.50	77.50	79.50	77.50	77.50	77.50
Kuala Lumpur	Composite: 540.87	540.87	540.87	540.87	540.87	540.87	540.87	540.87	540.87
Batang. Sports	5.20	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.20	5.10	5.10	5.10
Garuda. Corp.	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.70
Golden Hop. Co.	3.20	2.70	2.70	2.70	2.70	3.20	2.70	2.70	2.70
KL. Kepong	5.10	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.70	5.10	4.70	4.70	4.70
KL. Kuantan	1.50	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.50	1.40	1.40	1.40
Mal. Bhd.	7.40	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.40	7.10	7.10	7.10
Mal. Inf. Ship F.	5.25	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.25	5.10	5.10	5.10
Mal. Min. Corp.	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25
Public Bk F.	5.15	4.90	4.90	4.90	4.90	5.15	4.90	4.90	4

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ADR Anyone? Foreign Firms Flock to Wall Street to Sell Shares

By Judith Rehak

WITH ALL THE hoopla surrounding the large American stocks that have powered the Standard & Poor's 500 index to four straight years of double-digit gains, investors may be forgiven if they have not spared much thought for the international companies that trade on Wall Street. But those who turn their attention to overseas listings in New York, mostly in the form of American depository receipts, are in for a surprise.

The market for non-American stocks in America is bigger than any national stock market anywhere else. About \$3 trillion of the \$14 trillion of U.S. market capitalization at the end of last year was accounted for by non-American shares. By contrast, the value of stocks in London is about \$2.67 trillion and Japan's market trails with \$2.43 trillion, according to Birinyi Associates in Greenwich, Connecticut.

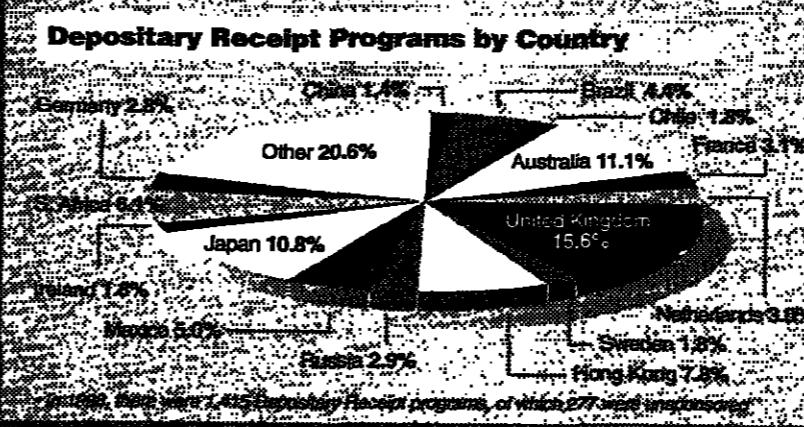
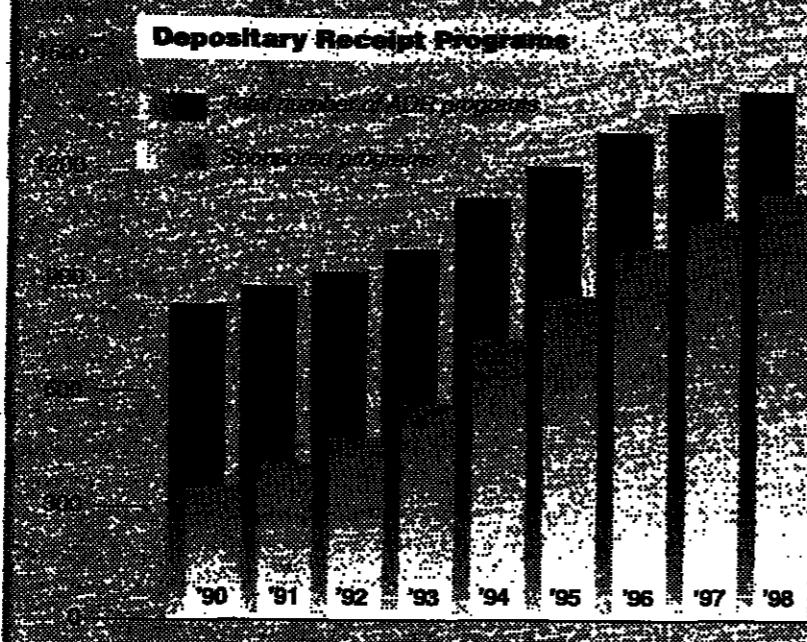
ADR growth has been substantial in recent years, with 1,415 companies offering the securities, up from 836 in 1990, according to Bank of New York, the largest depository bank for the receipts. Along with its two main rivals, J.P. Morgan & Co. and Citibank, Bank of New York buys blocks of foreign shares and puts them into bank vaults in the issuers' home countries. The stock never leaves its domestic market, but the depositories write receipts for the shares, and these trade in the United States and sometimes on overseas markets as well. Dividends, when paid, are passed to the receipt holders after taxes are deducted in the home country.

In such a big market, there is considerable difference among issues. Most prized are the most liquid ones, those that trade often (a security that you can easily sell is usually worth more than one that you cannot). Often, these are among the 500 or so that are listed on the New York and American stock exchanges or the Nasdaq market. There are three categories of disclosure, ranging from minimal at Level I to the same strict standards as U.S. companies at Level III. By subjecting themselves to American accounting rules, overseas issuers get access to the large pool of capital in the U.S. market.

The listed issues run the gamut from major multinationals such as British Airways PLC and Gucci NV, to new arrivals such as Italy's Ducati Motor Holding SpA. Even among over-the-counter-traded shares, there are a few blue-ribbon companies, such as Novartis AG, the Swiss pharmaceutical maker, and Volkswagen AG.

Far less common than ADRs are New York shares, which is stock issued in the United States for American trading. In a class by itself, at least for now, is DaimlerChrysler AG, whose global share is essentially the same stock that exists in

At Home in America



Depository Receipt Programs by Country

Country	Number of Receipts	U.S. \$ Volume, million
Brazil	892.6	81.0
Sweden	1,042.9	30.5
Netherlands	559.2	28.8
Finland	343.6	27.7
U.K.	274.4	23.5
Mexico	486.2	23.4
U.K.	248.8	15.0
Brazil	149.6	12.5
Netherlands	178.7	12.5
Netherlands	176.1	12.4

Source: Bank of New York

Germany and several other markets.

There are a variety of reasons for overseas companies to list their stock in the United States. For example, there is a multinational contingent on the prowl for American acquisitions. "We see quite a few companies from the U.K. to Germany coming to us because they're contemplating a U.S. listing with the ultimate goal of having shares ready to take advantage of opportunities quickly," said Patrick Colle, vice president of J.P. Morgan & Co.'s London depository receipt group. He noted the surge in stock swap related mergers, such as the blockbuster British Petroleum PLC-Amoco deal of last year.

Fledgling high-technology companies looking to do their initial share flotation make up a second group. Typically, their first stop is Nasdaq, the cradle of high-tech giants and gateway to a market that offers analysts who understand the industry, plus an enthusiastic crowd of individual investors.

Another contributor to the listed ADR universe are companies from new markets, especially Latin America. Despite the seemingly endless series of emerging-markets crises, last year saw the listings of a dozen newly privatized regional telephone companies from Brazil.

For individuals, the ever-expanding choices are accompanied by a new consideration — how best to invest in these companies, considering issues such as availability of research, fees, commis-

sions, and a rapidly emerging alternative, on-line trading in other markets.

Traders and financial advisers agree that there is no blanket answer to this question. It involves weighing issues of liquidity, plus commissions and fees that may be charged by a bank or broker, and just how much hand-holding you want when venturing outside your home turf.

ADRs clearly dominate the market, but the issue of fees has been raised with the arrival of DaimlerChrysler's global share. It began trading on the New York Stock Exchange last November and is also listed in local currencies on several other global exchanges. The biggest difference between it and an ADR from the investor's point of view is that since global shares are bought directly, there is no depository to tack on what's called a conversion fee, typically a five-cent charge added to each receipt's selling price. The depositories also charge to cancel an ADR and sometimes to process dividend payments, though not on New York Stock Exchange-listed securities, a Bank of New York spokesman said.

The depository's role is by no means the only issue affecting the profitability of these instruments. Most important is that neither ADRs nor the new global share are protected from currency risk, even though they are denominated in dollars. The price, and the dividend, are impacted by the strength or weakness of the dollar against the company's home

currency. Dollar-based investors in customers ask us to compare not just prices, but liquidity in the ADRs and the ordinary shares' home market," said Steven Chandler, head of the discount brokerage's global investing group.

Although these discount brokers offer basic information on companies, their customers generally do their research beyond the basics on their own. The trade-off is that they pay for lower commissions than at full-service firms.

The big three issuers of depository receipts, the Bank of New York, J.P. Morgan and Citibank are also getting in on the act, by offering individual investors direct-purchase programs, under which they can buy ADRs for as little as \$250, with fees that beat even discount brokers, and the option of buying more each month, and participating in dividend-reinvestment programs. DRIPs, as the dividend plans are known, are popular in the United States but uncommon in most other countries, while direct-purchase plans are virtually nonexistent outside of America.

At the Bank of New York, Kenneth Lopian, senior vice president of depository receipts, reported that the bank's directly sold ADR program took in more than \$100 million last year. "It has surpassed our expectations," he said. Among the 185 participating companies, investors favored names like Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Ltd., SmithKline Beecham PLC and Glaxo Wellcome PLC. Few, if any of these programs are

available to holders of common shares in the companies' home markets.

Along with these programs, which are available on the banks' respective Web sites, is an array of company information, research and stock prices. J.P. Morgan, for example, offers prices on both ADRs and underlying shares, plus earnings estimates, as well as information on the ADRs offered by competing banks.

More ADR listings are in the pipeline, but the New York Stock Exchange has announced that it is pursuing global share listings. Observers point out that the DaimlerChrysler listing had some political motivations, namely that Chrysler did not want an ADR because of the foreign comitato. But several more companies are expected to list global shares this year, and some are asking whether ADRs will eventually vanish in the face of this new instrument.

"I think global shares will probably work well, but only for the 100 giant multinationals around the world," said Steven Saker, president of International Assets, an Orlando, Florida investment boutique that specializes in overseas issues and ADRs. "I don't think the model works at any level below that, and it's very expensive for a small and medium-size company. Companies need to focus on where they need liquidity, and what for. For firms that have a following in the United States, a listed ADR makes a lot of sense. But for others, a local listing is all they need."

"It's not as if one is better than the other," said Mr. Cole of J.P. Morgan. "Our view is that what matters is not the instrument, it's the U.S. listing. Then you have listing standards, pricing transparency and liquidity," he said.

Meanwhile, another option is surfacing. On-line trading services, such as Charles Schwab & Co., are allowing individual investors to buy and sell stocks in each other's countries through a single account. A similar venture between Ameritrade and Cortal, the discount brokerage of Banque Paribas, is scheduled to be up and running by mid-summer, and more such alliances are planned.

Schwab's international Web sites also offer opportunities for doing research and investing in cross-border equities. The big three issuers of depository receipts, the Bank of New York, J.P. Morgan and Citibank are also getting in on the act, by offering individual investors direct-purchase programs, under which they can buy ADRs for as little as \$250, with fees that beat even discount brokers, and the option of buying more each month, and participating in dividend-reinvestment programs. DRIPs, as the dividend plans are known, are popular in the United States but uncommon in most other countries, while direct-purchase plans are virtually nonexistent outside of America.

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For further information:

• AMERITRADE: Web site: www.ameritrade.com

• BANK OF NEW YORK: Web site: www.bankny.com

• CHARLES SCHWAB & CO.: Global Investing Services: 1-800-223-4685; International Web site: www.schwab-worldwide.com

• CITIBANK: Web site: www.citibank.com/citibank/index.html

• DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT PLAN: Web site: www.adr.com/dividends/dividends.htm

• INTERNATIONAL ASSETS: Telephone 1-407-629-1400.

• CHARLES DEBARY CO.: Telephone 1-212-644-5300.

• J.P. MORGAN & CO.: Web site: www.jpm.com

Pick of the Portables: They're Big and Blue-Chip

YOU CAN LOOK at the American depository receipts universe as a ministock market of companies from around the world that have chosen to make their shares available in dollar-denominated form. Companies from 75 countries participate, and virtually every industry is represented, from pharmaceuticals and telecommunications to technology and retailers.

For individual investors (plenty of professional money managers buy ADRs as well), the most attractive companies right now are big, blue-chip, and European, say analysts and prognosticators who follow global stocks.

At Morgan Stanley Dean Witter & Co. in New York, the focus is on companies that dominate their markets and have a "pricing defense," the current low-inflation period, said Arthur Bradley, director of international equity marketing for the firm's brokerage network.

Based on that criteria, one of Morgan's top picks is Groupe Danone of France. Familiar in many countries as a yogurt maker, many consumers do not realize that it is the second-largest seller of bottled water in the world, with Evian among its brands, and that it is also a leading producer of cookies and biscuits, said Mr. Bradley. Another point in Danone's favor, he added, is that it is a restructuring story, focusing on those three sectors after selling unprofitable units. Morgan has a target price of \$69 over the next 12 months.

Food Retailers are in favor with Thomas McIntyre, manager of the \$85 million closed-end Dessauer Global Equity Fund. He has owned Royal Ahold NV, the Dutch supermarket giant, for years, and he still likes the stock. "It's a worldwide play on people going to the grocery store," he said. "They own great names in the U.S. like Stop & Shop, and they are big in Europe as well." Mr. McIntyre credited the company's superior management for its compounded annual return of 35 percent to shareholders for the last five years. Currently, he said he felt the stock was worth it.

On Wednesday, he was adding to his Ahold after the stock price had slipped to around \$70. Over the next 12 months, many analysts have target prices between \$90 and \$100, he said. The global telecommunications business is another industry that has listed a raft of ADRs. Luke Szymczak of Prudential Securities Inc. in New York, along with quite a few other analysts, has a buy rating on Nokia Corp., the Finnish

operator based in New Jersey that is active in the New York metropolitan area.

ANOTHER NAME that comes up frequently among the ADR cognoscenti is Glaxo Wellcome PLC, the largest pharmaceutical maker in the world. A leader in HIV treatment and asthma medications, with an 80 percent share of the market for migraine headache treatments, the British-based company has more than \$13 billion in sales annually. "Our analyst describes Glaxo as a defensive stock in a defensive sector," said Mr. Bradley.

The company has a new asthma drug in its pipeline, Sereotide, which is expected to receive government approval as soon as next year. "We feel it could be a potential blockbuster," Mr. Bradley said.

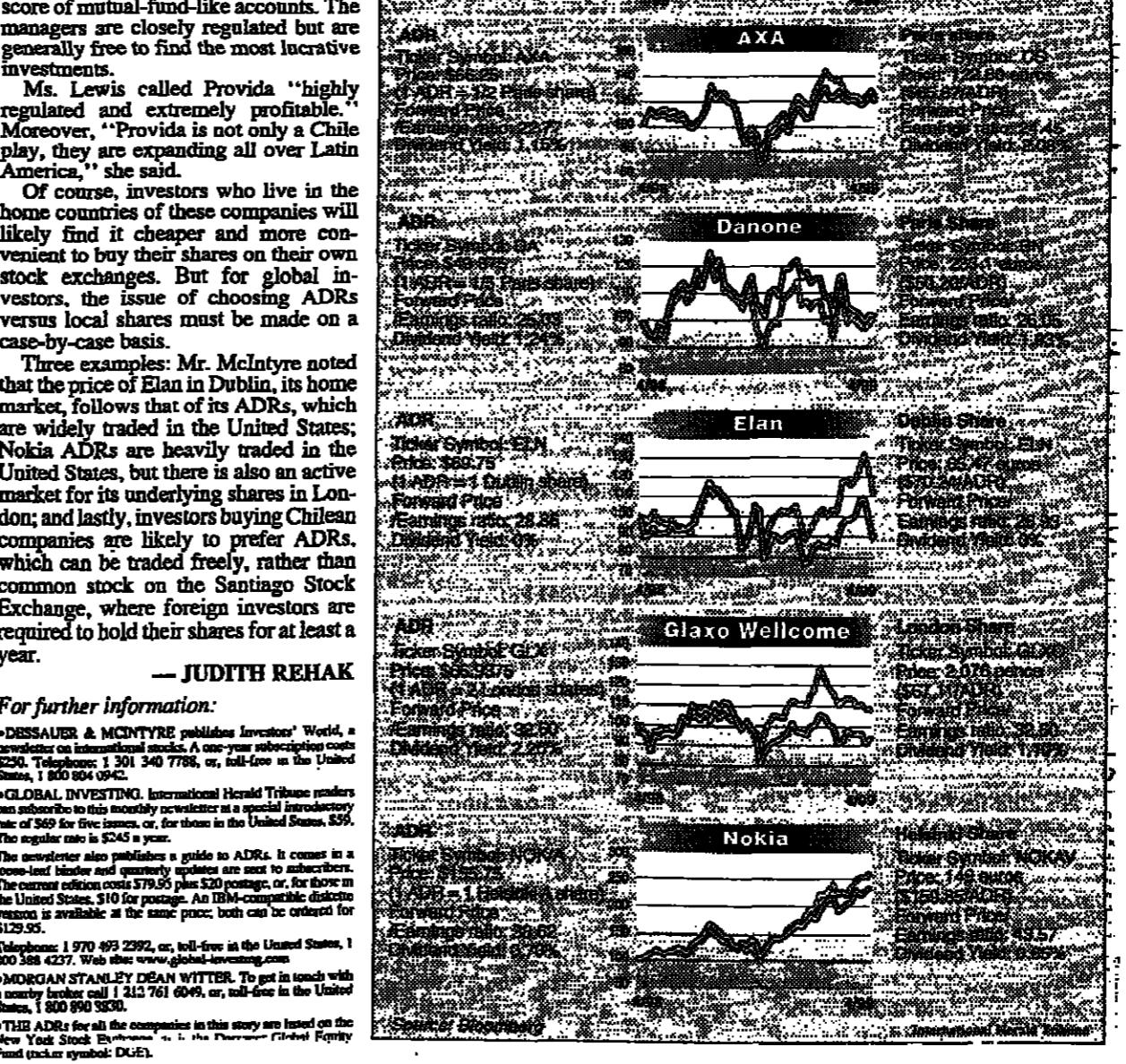
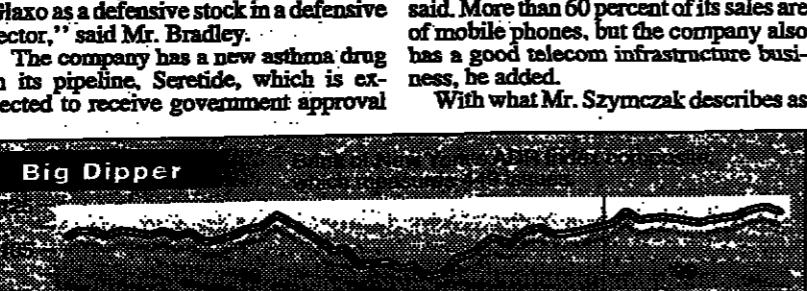
Glaxo has a place in Mr. McIntyre's fund, but he was even more enthusiastic about Elan Corp., a mid-size Irish pharmaceutical company with ambitions to be a large-cap name within five years. Originally known for its drug-delivery technology, Elan is transforming itself into a broad pharmaceutical company through acquisitions, and has several new drugs in its pipeline. "That's where the exciting growth is coming from," said Mr. McIntyre.

In March, Elan announced a stock split on the ADRs, though not the Dublin shares. Its stock jumped to close as high as \$87.875 before some profit-taking linked to concerns about the speed of approvals for an upcoming drug, Mr. McIntyre said.

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WORLD ROUNDUP



Tanaka Masami surges toward a world record Friday.

A Costly Mix-Up For Australians

SWIMMING The Australian men's 200 meters freestyle relay team lost its chance of a medal when it was disqualified after winning its heat Friday for swimming in the wrong order. The third and fourth swimmers changed places. For not following the order on the entry card, the quartet was disqualified in the world short-course championships. Its time was within two seconds of its own world record. New world records carry a \$15,000 bonus, and Australia had planned to substitute three world champions for the final.

Masami Tanaka of Japan set a world record in the women's 200 meters breaststroke final. In the men's 400 meters final, Grant Hackett beat a fellow Australian, Ian Thorpe, breaking Thorpe's world record. Jenny Thompson of the United States slipped a second off her record in a 100-meter individual medley heat. (AP, Reuters)

More Bad News for Nets

BASKETBALL The New Jersey Nets' disastrous National Basketball Association season took a turn for the worse. Keith Van Horn returned from injury and scored 24 as the Nets overcame a 14-point deficit against the Atlanta Hawks on Thursday. But Jayson Williams, the center, broke his leg and will miss the rest of the season. (AP)

Greeks to Play in Belgrade

SOCCER AEK Athens will play an exhibition game against Partizan Belgrade in the Yugoslav capital Wednesday. "The proceeds will go toward alleviating the plight of the Serbian people who are suffering as well," Petros Stathis, the Greek club's managing director, said Friday. (Reuters)

Irabu Misses Play and Trip

BASEBALL The New York Yankees set off for a West Coast road trip an hour late because Hideki Irabu failed to hustle in a spring training game. George Steinbrenner, the team owner, became angry Thursday after Irabu failed to cover first base for the second time in a week. Steinbrenner called the pitcher a "fat pussy toad."

The Yankees beat Cleveland, 7-6, in Tampa, Florida, and were to leave at once for California. But their departure was delayed an hour because of postgame meetings about Irabu.

Steinbrenner later said Irabu would remain in Florida to work out before joining the team Tuesday in Oakland. (AP)

Bruins Improve Chances

ICE HOCKEY The Boston Bruins moved closer to clinching a National Hockey League playoff berth when they beat Montreal, 3-2, Thursday. That result, coupled with Florida's loss to Washington, gave the Bruins a seven-point lead over the two teams chasing it for the final playoff berth in the Eastern Conference. The Bruins fought back after goals from Dainius Zubrus and Brian Savage gave Montreal a first-period lead. (AP)



Sergei Zholotok, upright, congratulates Dainius Zubrus, who scored past Byron Dafoe.

Baseball's Great Summer of '98 Is History; Long Live '99

Washington Post Service
WASHINGTON — All winter, I've been looking at Mark McGwire's jersey. The red Cardinals shirt — "McGwire '98" — is draped over the back of my reading chair. Of course, it's not a real McGwire jersey — just a \$25 knockoff from a Busch Stadium concession stand, but it serves its purpose.

All winter, I realized that I didn't want the 1998 season to be finished yet. So the jersey stayed in a spot where I could see it until Opening Day 1999, on Sunday. Like many fans, I don't want 1998 to recede — not just McGwire's 70 home runs, Sammy Sosa's 66 or the Yankees' 125 wins, but all of it. It was too special.

Baseball is not a member of the family. But when the game is on a roll, it can almost feel that way, pulling you in day after day with something bright and, at least last summer, actually uplifting.

When the game was sick after the '94 strike, you almost didn't want to ask: "Exactly how sick is baseball? What's the prognosis? Give it to me straight, doc." Last year, baseball got the lab back. Nothing serious.

Nonetheless, I'm a little afraid of this spring. How is it going to stack up? So far this spring, the health metaphor has fit the sport far too ominously.

The funeral for the man usually introduced as "Baseball's Greatest Living Player" — Joe DiMaggio — is still fresh in mind. The Big Cat, Andres Galarraga, one of the game's best sluggers and

nicest people, is out for the year with a cancerous tumor in his lower back. Kerry Wood, the '98 National League rookie of the year and the most dazzling young pitcher in the game by a wide margin, also is out for the year. At age 21, there is only one kind of elbow surgery: career threatening.

Cal Ripken Sr. died on March 25 of lung cancer, causing one of the game's most prominent players, Cal Ripken Jr., to leave spring training. The spring's best news may be that Joe Torre's prostate cancer was detected so early that his chances of a recurrence are relatively low. Joe will miss only a few weeks.

Despite all this, it still seems baseball has regained its balance — between business and sport, between personal individuality and public responsibility.

Starting with Ripken, who reestablished the power of the old-fashioned, just-right hero, baseball has discovered a whole generation of classic baseball gentlemen: Tony Gwynn, Galarraga, Ken Griffey Jr., Greg Maddux, Frank Thomas, Mike Piazza, Tom Glavine, Mike Mussina, McGwire, Sosa, Felipe Alou, Dusty Baker and Torre.

What happened to all the jerks? Did they get teleported to another dimension? Did the twinkle in Don Zimmer's eye get sprinkled on everybody?

Except for Albert Belle, who's supposedly having a personality make-over

in Baltimore, and perhaps Barry Bonds, it's hard to find a baseball star who can't be allowed in polite company.

The next generation of potential Hall of Famers already seems to have picked up the message. Alex Rodriguez in Seattle grew up modeling himself on Ripken. Nomar Garciaparra in Boston is as elegant on the field and as shy, stoic and silent off it as a DiMaggio brother. Derek Jeter wants to be known as a class act. And those are just the shortstops.

If you had to predict the next two superstars who will emerge in the 2000s, you might guess Vladimir Guerrero (38 homers) in Montreal and third baseman Scott Rolen (110 RBIs) in Philadelphia.

PERHAPS baseball was the first sport to become intoxicated with big free-agent money, glamour and the fast-lane lifestyle in the late '70s and early '80s. That swell-headed arrogance and self-inflation may have peaked in '94. Baseball awoke with such a splitting headache that, maybe, it finally sobered up. Perhaps it's ready for an era of good citizenship.

The backbone of baseball at the turn of the millennium is the almost unprecedented number of superior everyday players who are either in their prime or emerging young stars. There's a talent glut that some of the best players are almost

unknown outside their own cities.

Which Blue Jay had 35 homers and 35 steals last year? Not Carlos Delgado (38 homers), but rifle-armed outfielder Shawn Green. Name the catcher who hit .327 last year with a .411 on-base percentage and 26 steals? Hint: He bats leadoff. Pittsburgh's Jason Kendall, 24.

Who is the Chicago second baseman

who scored 126 runs and stole 36 bases — superstar numbers? Ray Durham.

Which of these young players drove in 100 runs last season: Tony Clark, Damon Easley, Rusty Greer, Jason Giambi, Matt Stairs, Rico Brogna, Derek Bell, Kevin Young or Jeremy Burnitz? Answer: All of them. Todd Helton and the rookie Ben Grieve just missed.

With the exception of Ripken and Gwynn, almost none of the game's biggest names is in his dotage. Even those two, if they get their 3,000th hits this season, will still have some game left.

As if to underline the point that the game's key players are in their primes, McGwire and Sosa went to spring training and each hit seven exhibition-game homers almost immediately. Big Mac needed only 28 at-bats! What's a pace for 120? Chill, dude. Save it.

At the moment, baseball has one universally acknowledged Achilles' heel. About a dozen supremely rich franchises have a clear advantage in accumulating talent, while a half-dozen teams are unable to compete at a serious level in a sport defined by free-agent dollars.

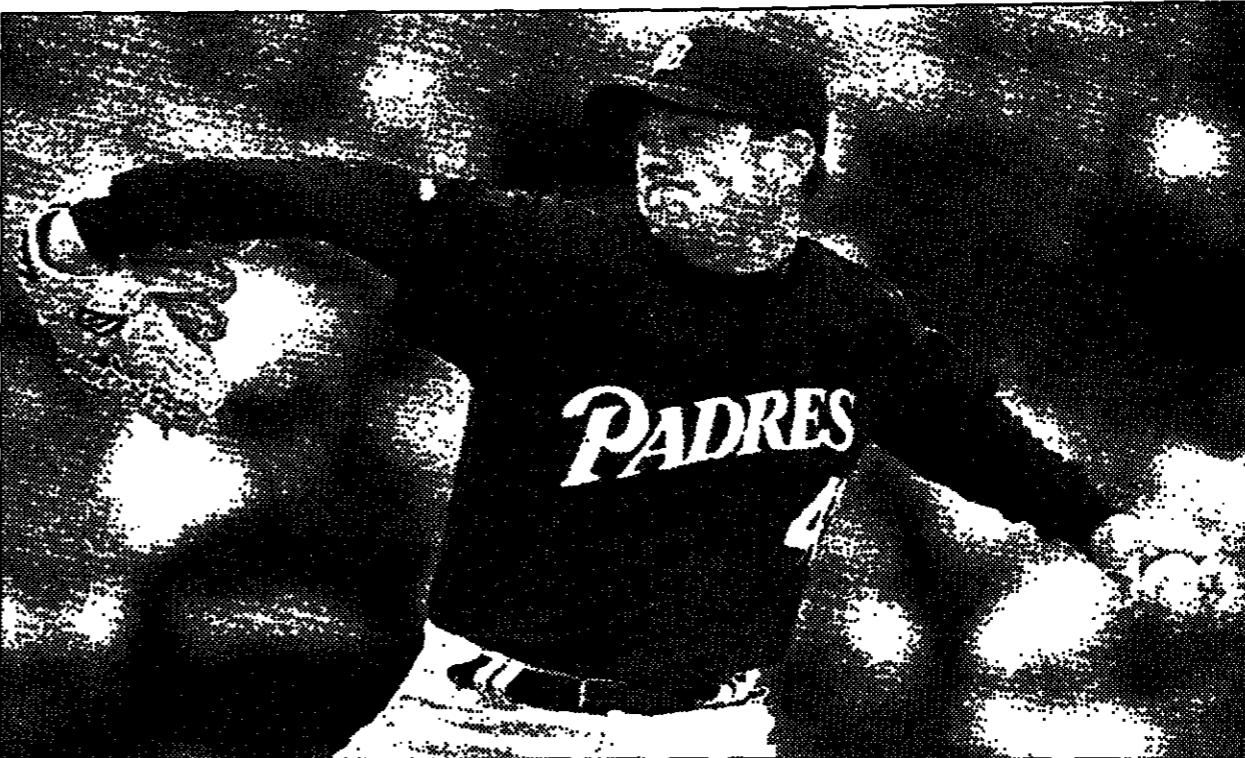
Much of the game's economic in-

equality can be traced to its new family-friendly retro ballparks. Everybody wants them, only a few teams have them. Yet, in every city that gets a Camden Yards clone, a rabid new fan base quickly attaches itself to the sophisticated sports site that doubles as a kind of hip, all-purpose Entertainment Destination.

Seamheads bemoan this edifice complex. To them, unless you keep score of every pitch and spot every reliever who gets up to loosen his arm, you should not be allowed in the park. Ban the heathens. Bring back grunge. Keep the beer warm and the dog gods cold.

Get a life, purists. Baseball has always been inclusive. Some of the new faces in these swanky ballparks may become good fans. Some may just have a good time. Who cares which? Ever since '94, baseball has been learning the same lesson in many forms. Whether it's an autograph, an interview, a sportsmanlike display between foes like Mac and Sosa or the creation of a section of a park that's devoted to the special interests of certain fans, the game has learned to ask the same key question: What can we do for you?

As Opening Day draws near, it's clear that there's good news and bad news about baseball as the '99 season begins. The bad news: There is no way this season figures to be as good as last year. The good news: Baseball's health is so robust, and its concern for its fans is so legit, that even if this season doesn't approach historic '98, it should still be wonderful.



THE HIGH HARD ONE — Sterling Hitchcock of the San Diego Padres pitching to Ken Griffey Jr. of the Seattle Mariners, who doubled in an exhibition game. The Padres defeated their West Coast opponents, 9-8.

The Crack of the Bat

By Dick Roraback
International Herald Tribune

Away on this side of the ocean
When the chestnuts are hinting of green
And the first of the cafe commandos
Are moving outside for a *fina*
And the sound of spring beats a bolero
As Pure sheds her coat and her hat
The sound that is missed more than any
Is the sound of the crack of a bat.

There's an animal kind of a feeling
There's a stirring down at Vincennes Zoo
And the kid down the hall's getting restless
Taking stairs like a young kangaroo
Now the dandy is walking his poodle
And the concierge sunning her cat
But the heart's with the Cubs and the Tigers
And the sound of the crack of a bat.

In the park on the corner run schoolboys
With a couple of cartons for props
Kicking goals à la Fontaine or Kopa
While a little guy chickies for cops
"Goal for us," "No it's not," "You're a liar,"
Then the classical shrieks of a spat
But it's not like a rhubarb at home plate
Or the sound of the crack of a bat.

Here the stadia thrill to the scrumdowns

And the soccer fans flock to the games
And the chic punt the nags out at Longchamp
Where the women are *dames* and not *dames*
But it's different at Forbes and at Griffith
The homes of the Buc and the Nat
Where the hotdog and peanut share laurels
With the sound of the crack of a bat.

No, a Yank can't describe to a Frenchman
The rasp of an umpire's call
The continuing charms of statistics
Changing history with each strike and ball
Nor the self-conscious jog of the slugger
Rounding third with the tip of his bat
Nor the half-smothered grace of a hook slide
Nor the sound of the crack of a bat.

Now the golfer is buffing his niblick
And the tennis buff's tightening his strings
And the fisherman's flexing his flyrod
Like a thousand and one other springs
Oh, the sports on both sides of the ocean
Have a great deal in common, at that
But the thing that's not *HERE*
At this time of the year
Is the sound of the crack of a bat.

The late Dick Roraback was sports editor of the *International Herald Tribune*. His springtime elegy has appeared in this space since the 1960s.

Rangers Have Questions on the Mound

Washington Post Service
How the teams in the AL West are going to fare. Teams listed in predicted order of finish.

Texas Rangers The Rangers scored a franchise record 940 runs and shouldn't see much of a drop this season. The question for this team is its starting rotation. Rick Helling and Aaron Sele

combined for 39 victories and the Rangers were 46-20 when they started, but Texas' starters had the highest earned run average (5.68) in the league.

It was the bullpen that won many games for Texas. If closer John Wetteland (42 saves) does not recover from offseason elbow surgery, the Rangers could be in trouble.

Texas improved offensively and defensively with the addition of Rafael Palmeiro, but he underwent knee surgery in March, and is trying to get ready for opening day. Rusty Greer, Juan Gonzalez, Palmeiro and Ivan Rodriguez (the Rangers' 2-3-4-5 hitters) all could have more than 100 runs batted in.

Angels The Angels are seeking to avoid

years. The addition of Mo Vaughn will add power to an already strong lineup, but the Angels still are lacking a solid starter to supplement their aging rotation. They did pick up veteran Tim Belcher, a tireless worker who probably will provide 10 to 15 victories. Anaheim is loaded in the outfield, so much so that Garrett Anderson (15 HRs, .294 BA) could be dealt for a pitcher. Darrin Erstad, Jim Edmonds and Tim Salmon averaged 23 homers last season.

Seattle Mariners It's no secret that Ken Griffey Jr. and Alex Rodriguez are two of the best in the game. So why would the Mariners even consider letting them go? The answer, of course, is money. Seattle moves into a new, expensive ballpark in July, and Seattle's fans have shown that they support only a winner ('98 attendance fell 17.2 percent).

But it's not Griffey or Rodriguez's fault. The Mariners had perhaps the worst bullpen in baseball last year, blowing 27 saves. The addition of Jose Mesa will help if he can regain his edge. The starting rotation isn't much better and lacks a true power pitcher. Griffey needs some defensive help in the outfield.

— R.J.

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE
The National League division-by-division preview will appear Monday in the International Herald Tribune.

SPORTS

Courier and Martin Give U.S. 2-0 Lead Over Britain

By Christopher Clarey
International Herald Tribune

BIRMINGHAM, England — For more than four hours, more than 9,000 British fans waved their Union Jacks to welcome their Davis Cup team back to the World Group, but when Tim Courier's last passing shot of the long afternoon had landed for a clean winner, the only fans putting their flags through the motions in the National Indoor Arena were a few dozen Americans.

Tim Henman might have a higher ranking than Courier at this stage in their careers. Henman might have won more points and one more game than the American on Friday. But Courier would win the match to give the United States a 1-0 lead, and then Todd Martin extended that with a 6-4, 6-4, 6-2 victory over Greg Rusedski.

"If this is any indication, it's going to be a great weekend," said Courier after his 7-6 (7-2), 2-6, 7-6 (7-3), 6-7 (10-12), 7-5 victory.

The match, which lasted four hours and 12 minutes, was remarkable not only for its length but for its quality.

Courier, who was once the world's number one player, has slipped to 54th in the rankings and has not gotten past the fourth round in a Grand Slam event since 1996. But the Davis Cup has helped fill some of the competitive and emotional void, and against Henman, ranked seventh, Courier's quick movement, forehand blasts and cocksure passing shots were often reminiscent of his better days.

In the first round in 1997, in spite of a Brazilian crowd that was infinitely more obnoxious than the fair-minded Britons, Courier defeated Gustavo Kuerten on the road in the decisive match. Last year in the first round, he rallied to win a five-setter against Marat Safin of Russia to finish off a 3-2 victory and was tackled on court by his giddy teammates.

The victory Friday brought him more good vibrations and a measure of vindication. Although Courier was named to the team by the captain, his good friend Tom Gullikson, for last year's semifinal match against Italy, Gullikson decided to play Jan-Michael Gambill and keep Courier on the bench. Gambill and the Americans lost.

This time, after Pete Sampras and Andre Agassi again declined to play, Gullikson opted for experience and chose Courier over Gambill. Clearly, it was the right move, and even though Henman saved four match points in the fourth-set tiebreaker, Courier kept his temper in check and his concentration intact. And after holding serve to 6-5 in the final set, he jogged over to his chair.

DAVIS CUP TENNIS

and found the energy to break Henman at love and then leap into the air with joy. "I was just trying to get that extra adrenaline going," he said.

Courier was not the only player who got by on adrenaline during the first day of World Group play. In Frankfurt, Tommy Haas defeated Marat Safin 9-7 in the fifth set to give Germany an early lead over Russia. Yevgeni Kafelnikov, the Australian Open champion, then defeated Nicolas Kiefer in straight sets to level the tie at 1.

On a quick indoor court in Harare, Zimbabwe, Byron Black drew strength from a home crowd to defeat Mark

Philipoussis 6-3, 3-6, 4-6, 6-3, 7-5. A year ago in Australia, Black and his younger brother Wayne upset Pat Rafter and the Australians in the first round when Philipoussis declined to play because of a dispute with the captain, John Newcombe, and coach, Tony Roche.

But even with Philipoussis back in the lineup and serving 39 aces, Byron was able to use his home-court savvy and world-class returns to put the Australians on the defensive again. In the second singles match, however, Rafer defeated Wayne Black in four sets.

The Spaniards and Brazilians were also staved at 1 after the first day of play on red clay in Spain. In the opening rubber, Carlos Moya defeated Fernando Meligeni of Brazil in four sets. Kuerten, the former French Open champion, then defeated Moya's Spanish teammate Alex Corretja in straight sets, 6-3, 6-4, 7-5.

Richard Krajicek, fresh off an impressive victory in Key Biscayne, required considerably more time to finish off Jerome Golvain of France in a match played in the ancient Roman arena in Nimes. Krajicek, the towering

Dutchman, dropped the first two sets against the unorthodox Golvain, who beat Henman in Key Biscayne, but then rallied to win, 3-6, 4-6, 7-6 (7-5), 6-4, 6-2, to give the Netherlands a 1-0 lead. Cedric Pioline then defeated Paul Haarhuis in straight sets to make it 1-1.

Belgium and Switzerland took early 1-0 leads. In Gent, the Belgian teenager Xavier Malisse defeated Bohdan Ulihrach of the Czech Republic in four sets. In Neuchatel, Marc Rosset of Switzerland defeated Gianluca Pozzi of Italy in straight sets. Neither of those results were particularly surprising, but it does come as a surprise to see that Sweden, which has won the Davis Cup the last two years, was trailing the Slovak Republic, 2-0, in the southern Swedish city of Trollhattan.

In the opening match, Karol Kucera of Slovakia defeated Thomas Johansson in four sets. Then in the second match, Dominik Hrbaty upset Sweden's Thomas Enqvist in five sets. Enqvist, who reached the final of the Australian Open in January, has had a far better season than Hrbaty, but logic is frequently not the decisive factor in the Davis Cup.



AP Wire Photo
Marat Safin of Russia serving on Friday to Tommy Haas of Germany.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

EXHIBITION BASEBALL

THURSDAY RESULTS

Texas 6, Cincinnati 4
Kansas City 10, Detroit 4
Tampa 19, Tampa Bay 8
Milwaukee 7, Minnesota 1
Baltimore 2, Florida 0
St. Louis 4, Montreal 3
Houston 7, Atlanta 1
Pittsburgh 12, Philadelphia 7
New York Yankees 7, Cleveland 6
Colorado 7, Milwaukee 7
San Diego 9, Seattle 8
Chicago White Sox vs. Arizona at Tucson, Ariz., cctd. rain
Milwaukee (AA) Tampa 15, Oklahoma (ba) 7, 7 in.

BASKETBALL

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE
ATLANTIC DIVISION
Philadelphia 24-11, 1st
Atlanta 19-16, 2nd
Milwaukee 18-15, 3rd
Philadelphia 16-14, 5th
Baltimore 12-15, 6th
Washington 10-19, 7th
New Jersey 7-22, 8th
Philadelphia 10-19, 11th
Philadelphia 7-11, 12th
Indiana 22-11, 13th
Milwaukee 19-15, 14th
Milwaukee 18-15, 15th
Atlanta 19-15, 16th
Toronto 16-14, 17th
Philadelphia 12-15, 18th
Philadelphia 10-19, 19th
Indiana 22-11, 20th
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DAVE BARRY

Taxes and Margaritas

MAMI — Perhaps you are one of the many Americans who are afraid of preparing their own income-tax returns. If so, let me offer these words of encouragement: You stupid idiot. I say this because doing your own taxes has never been easier, thanks to modern technology such as the telephone, the personal computer, and the canned frozen margarita.

Take me. I am not a so-called Certified Public Accountant, but I have been handling my own taxes for years, using a simple, three-step system:

STEP ONE: One week before the April 15 tax deadline, I gather together all my financial records. This is easy, because I keep all my records in one convenient place, the kitchen drawer where I also keep my butane lighters with no butane in them and my package of "AAA" batteries, which I bought in 1987 because I thought they were "AA" batteries, and which I plan to return for a refund as soon as I locate the receipt. So all my records are compressed into one convenient, dense wad.

STEP TWO: Using a chisel, I separate my records and sort them according to size and color. This takes a while, but it "paves the way" for the heart of my preparation system:

STEP THREE: I phone Evan, my accountant, and urgently ask if I can file for an extension, and he tells me that he already did. Then he hangs up and goes back to sleep because at this point it is 3:30 A.M. on April 18.

The advantage of this "Extension System," is that you can postpone filing your tax return for several months, and even longer if, the good Lord willing, the Earth is destroyed by an asteroid. You know what makes me want to puke, aside from Geraldo Rivera? I'll tell you what: so-called tax-preparation software. When I go to the computer superstore and see these clueless taxpayers paying good money for software that is allegedly going to make their tax preparation "fast and easy," I laugh so hard that it takes four store employees to wrestle me to the floor and inject my special medicine into my neck. I react this way because I know that this "tax-preparation software" is NOT going to prepare these clueless people's returns for them; it is going to ask them 14 billion technical questions about things such as their name, Social Security number, income, expenses and the exact number — right down to the decimal point! — of their children.

Listen, software geeks: If we KNEW all these details, we wouldn't need the computer to help us! Why don't you make USEFUL tax software? I'm talking about software that, when you put it into your computer, says to you: "You've done ENOUGH already! Go enjoy a canned margarita while I use my modem to wake Evan up and get you an extension!"

For those of you who wish, for whatever insane reason, to actually prepare your tax returns, there are some changes you need to know about. The main one is that the IRS now has a positive, taxpayer-friendly image, expressed by the upbeat new motto: "We Acknowledge That There Is a Possibility, However Remote, That You Are Not Criminal Scum." Instead of hassling taxpayers, the new IRS wants to serve them.

Which glue were they sniffing when they thought up our tax laws?

What does this mean to you, the individual taxpayer? According to Commissioner Charles Rossotti, it means you are now expected to tip.

"If you're a married taxpayer filing jointly," states Rossotti in his Letter to Taxpayers, "tucking a fifty-dollar bill inside your tax return will definitely cause the IRS employee serving you to feel appreciated and be less likely to select you for the auditing procedure we call 'The Closet Full of Snakes.'"

Rossotti also points out that when we sign our returns, we are taking a legal oath. "This means," he sternly reminds us, "that the information you provide must meet the same standard of truth and accuracy that President Clinton met when he testified under oath about alleged acts of internship with Monica Lewinsky." For example, if you have three dependents, when you fill in the box that says "Number of Dependents," the following answers would meet the Clinton Accuracy Standard:

• "Three."

• "Four."

• "Around 27."

• "It depends what you mean by 'dependent.'"

Remember that, as always, if you have questions about filling out your forms, you can call up your congressperson or senators at any hour of the day or night and ask them what brand of glue they were sniffing when they thought up our tax laws. But let us not become bitter and negative. Let us remember that, in a democratic society, if we do not pay our "fair share" of taxes for vital services, we will be able to buy ourselves a boat. So let's sharpen our pencils and start accurately writing down our income. I don't recall having any.

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They have an auditing procedure called 'The Closet Full of Snakes.'

By Mary Blurne

International Herald Tribune

LONDON — Much public housing is both prefabricated and prefabricating, providing adequate shelter and slight ease. Immigrant families, especially those from religious and ethnic minorities coping with a strange and often hostile environment, suffer most, but many of their problems can, with attention and at small cost, be solved, according to a report by the London architects Gregory Penoyre and Sunand Prasad called "Accommodating Diversity: Housing Design in a Multicultural Society."

Britain has 3 million inhabitants from minority ethnic groups, mostly in highly urbanized areas, and all of them, especially Africans and Afro-Caribbeans, have problems getting decent housing. Prasad says attempts at improving conditions are more intense in Britain than in other countries, in part because of an especially complex immigrant experience.

"The sheer diversity and scale of the British colonial venture is what makes it different. Britain's very long history of colonial entanglement is where it all starts. The more recent history of interchange is now leading to an extraordinary period where in this country there are real signs of a multicultural society, still fragile and full of danger."

Prasad likes to say that his firm designs everything from opera houses to operating theaters but they are especially active in public housing for minority groups, working now on the conversion of early 19th-century houses in Stepney to accommodate immigrant extended families.

Their research has indicated that immigrant families do not wish their houses to stand out and prefer to avoid areas of high racial harassment. Statistically more vulnerable to criminal attacks, dwellings should be sited to provide maximum security, perhaps in a horse-shoe shape so that occupants can overlook each other's entrances.

The last suggestion, Prasad says, caused much merriment in the press when the second edition of the report was released during the summer silly season. Some immigrants hotly denied any interest in

Layouts should provide for, say, the Bangladeshi custom of several generations living under the same roof, or Muslim separation of men and women. Certain groups have expressed a need for space for a shrine and for ritual washing, many purchase food in bulk and so require more storage space.

One scheme for Afro-Caribbean older people in south London has added glazed, verandah-like circulation space to replicate the Caribbean relationship between indoors and outdoors in an unfriendly cold climate.

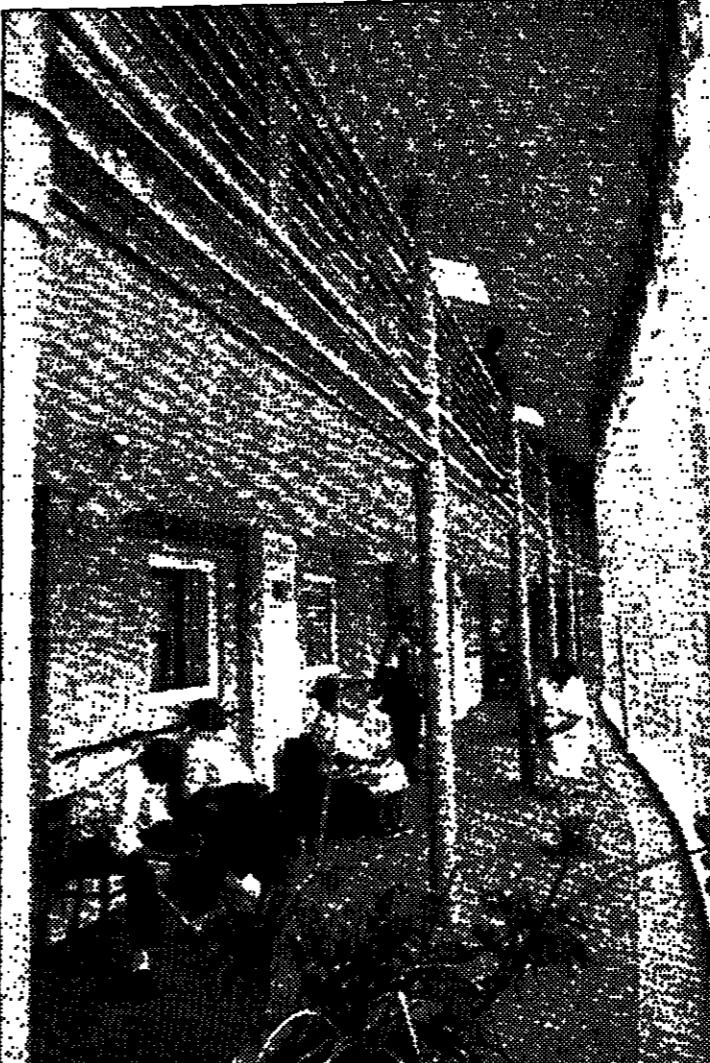
In bedrooms, Muslims do not wish the feet to point to Mecca. Kurds prefer a north-south axis, some Chinese will not have the bed face any door, including a closet.

The groups studied for the Home Housing Trust by Penoyre and Prasad and four architectural practices specializing in minority needs were African, Arab, Bangladeshi, Caribbean, Chinese, Filipino, Greek, Cypriot, Indian, Jewish, Kurdish, Pakistani, Somali, Tamil, Turkish, Turkish Cypriot, Vietnamese and West African. Religions involved ranged from Copt to Zoroastrian, languages from Hakka to Twi.

The point was to provide comfort as well as flexibility so that the housing will remain suitable as customs become more integrated or neighborhoods change.

For now, many of the suggestions are quite specific. For people who prefer to sit on the floor, lower window sills to provide light. White worktops should be avoided in the kitchen because they are easily stained by the turmeric that is used widely in many cuisines. Smoke-detector alarms should be carefully placed so that they are not set off when incense is burned. Private outdoor space such as balconies can be used for sun-drying popadams.

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Penoyre & Prasad Architects

The architects are active in public housing for minority groups.

popadams and found the suggestion patronizing. "It is far from patronizing, it is largely directed by the people involved," Prasad says. Others criticized what they considered a ghetto approach.

"This is the very reverse of ghettoizing. This is to say let's look at all housing, we think that all housing can be improved by taking a more generous view of the lifestyle

that may be accommodated in that housing." The idea is that, with small changes, a native-born English family could, when the original occupants have moved on, feel equally at home.

"We're not talking only about specific solutions for minority ethnic groups, but this point is hard to get across. People say you want to design special buildings and then

we'll all be separate, but this isn't the message at all. Take disabilities, it's now totally established that we should make buildings accessible for people with disabilities and this has had only one effect on housing, it's made it more generous and better. Doorways are wider, there's room to swing a cat, the nicest loos to use are those designed for disabilities, don't you always go for them?"

The Vietnamese shrine can always later become a bookcase, large-family homes can be divided as demographics change, showers with constantly running water rather than stagnant bathtubs already suit certain tastes.

Prasad, whose early years were spent in Gandhi's ashram in central India and who came to England as a schoolboy 35 years ago when his father took a job with an international pacifist group, says England has changed a great deal in his lifetime. "It was far, far worse. I've personally suffered from racism and violence as well, but I think that given the way human history moves you have to accept some of these things for a fact, and a lot of things are getting better. There is more transparency, a lot of discussion, booklets like ours can come out."

But as the booklet reminds us, a lot remains to be done. One detail: The letter flaps traditional on English front doors are not recommended for minority housing because excreta and gasoline-soaked rags are often shoved through them.

Since the first edition of the booklet came out in 1993, its recommendations, although simple and cost-effective, have not been taken forward by other architects. Prasad admits. Yet the adaptation of local housing to the habits of outsiders is older even than the British Raj.

Early English settlers in Bengal adapted the local one-story cottage to their own needs and tastes. The new house form took its name in 1676 from *bangla*, or belonging to Bengal, and it was enduringly called the bungalow.

PEOPLE

THE publisher of Penthouse magazine, Bob Guccione, may evict his son from a \$1.5 million apartment in New York that the son claims was a gift, a judge ruled. Anthony Guccione, 38, has lived in the loft since 1987, when he said his father gave it to him for doing well at Harvard and for joining the family business. But a judge said the elder Guccione kept the apartment in his name and there was no proof he had given it to his son. The elder Guccione would not comment. His son said he would appeal. The two don't speak. "I feel very aggrieved by what I see as my father's dirty tricks and harassment tactics for the two and a half years since I left the company," he said.

□

Paul McCartney has found companionship with the textile designer Sue Timney after the death last year of his wife, Linda, *The Daily Mail* says. Timney, 52, who is separated from her husband, had been spending time with McCartney at his farmhouse near Rye in southern England, the tabloid said. It quoted an unidentified friend as saying,

"It is wonderful for Paul to have company. Paul and Sue is a great cook and a caring person. They are extremely close." The Daily Mail quoted Timney as saying: "I am a friend of Paul's. I am a friend of the family's. There is nothing more to say."

□

A court in Frankfurt has rejected a legal complaint brought by the former figure skating champion Katarina Witt against a newspaper that published a picture of her in the nude. The newspaper reprinted the photo from a set of pictures that appeared in the December edition of *Playboy* magazine that Witt had posed for. The Frankfurt District Court ruled that the newspaper had not invaded Witt's privacy by reprinting the photo. Witt is a public figure, the court said in a statement.

□

Prime Minister Hasina Wazed of Bangladesh and the former U.S. senator George Mitchell have been named the winners of Unesco's 1998 Houphouet-Boigny peace award. Mitchell helped

broker last year's peace accord in Northern Ireland, and Sheikh Hasina signed a peace deal with tribal leaders in December 1997, ending a 22-year insurgency that had claimed at least 25,000 lives. They were given the award for "their contribution to the resolution of conflicts in Bangladesh and Northern Ireland" by a jury chaired by the former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

□

Luciano Pavarotti says he doesn't know quite what to expect when he performs next week in Las Vegas, for a third time. But he knows there will be roulette tables waiting to take his money again. The tenor is scheduled to make a rare appearance in the gambling capital on April 10, christening the 12,000-seat Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino Events Center. The concert will be his first there since March 1985. He recalls being "very comfortable" with his Las Vegas audiences, and in the casino — at least for a while. "I won a couple thousand dollars at roulette," he said. "Then I lost it, like everybody does."

GREETINGS — A bronze head that is part of an exhibition at the National Palace Museum in Taiwan of 1,700-year-old artifacts unearthed in Sichuan, China.



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